THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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IPL 2024: MUMBAI GET OFF THE MARK WITH EMPHATIC VICTORY

After three losses, Mumbai Indians pocketed their first points with a 29-run victory vs Delhi Capitals while Lucknow secured their third win...

MI OUT-HIT CAPITALS; LSG TOO GOOD FOR GT

Rohit Sharma (49 off 27), Ishan Kishan (42 off 23), Tim David (unbeaten 21-ball 45) and Romario Shepherd (39 n.o from 10 balls) exhibited a six-hitting show as Mumbai posted a massive 234/5 against Delhi. Despite Tristan Stubbs' heroic efforts (71 n.o), DC could only manage 205/8. In the second game, Lucknow Super Giants beat Gujarat Titans by 33 runs

CAN CHENNAI GET BACK TO WINNING WAYS?

- Chennai Super Kings are back at Chepauk after two away losses as they take on Kolkata Knight Riders on Monday
- While Mustafizur Rahman is expected to be back, the Ruturaj Gaikwad-led side will be hoping that their batting fires to perfection against KKR who have some serious hitters in the ranks | **P13**

284

STUBBS' 71 N.O IS THIRD BEST SR AMONGST 25-PLUS BALL KNOCKS IN IPL

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

At 45.2° C, six villages in K'buragi record highest temp in Karnataka

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

SIX villages in Gabbur hobli of Deodurga taluk in Raichur district on Sunday recorded 45.2 degrees Celsius, making it the highest in the state this year.

Gugal, Maladkal, Hemnal, Hirebudur, Ramdurga and Shavantagera hit record temperatures, while many other villages in Yadgir, Kalaburagi and Bagalkot districts of North Karnataka too recorded close to 45 degrees Celsius on Sunday. The India Meteorological Department has issued a heat wave alert in many parts of North Karnataka, especially in the Kalyana Karnataka region, where the temperature has been rising over the last five days. Some villages in Kalaburagi and Raichur districts had recorded highs, but not above 45 degrees Celsius.

Kalaburagi District Health Officer (DHO) Dr Ratikant Swamy said no untoward incidents have been reported though temperatures have been climbing steadily over the last few days. In the last seven days, seven people from different villages suffered mild heat strokes and were treated at nearby Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres, he added.

Raichur Deputy Commissioner Chandrashekhar Nayaka and Kalaburagi Deputy Commissioner Fouzia Tarannum said they have asked officials to provide shelter and drinking water at places where MGNREGA works are in progress. The state government has reduced the workload of workers in 14 districts of the state, especially North Karnataka, by 30 per cent and labourers have been advised not to work during peak heat hours. The police have decided to switch off traffic signals from noon till 4 pm.

The Health Department has asked citizens, especially seniors, not to venture out of their house between noon and 4 pm unless there is an emergency. During these hours, roads in Kalaburagi and Raichur have been wearing a deserted look.

People wait with pots for water at Jyotinagar in Belagavi on Sunday

Light rain likely from April 2nd week in B'luru

The India Meteorological Department brought a glimmer of hope to people, even as it predicted rainfall in the second week of April in Bengaluru. The city recorded 37.6 degrees Celsius on April 2, the highest in the past eight years. **P2**

Day after Bengal mob attack, NIA officers face FIR

Police register case against central agency's officials for 'molestation' and 'trespassing'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kolkata

A day after the National Investigation Agency (NIA) team probing the 2022 Bhupatinagar bomb blast case came under attack by an unruly mob in West Bengal's East Midnapore district, the local police on Sunday said that they have booked the agency's officials for 'molestation' and 'trespassing'. The NIA team had gone to the Bhupatinagar village in the wee hours on Saturday to conduct raids and take into custody two key conspirators of the 2022 attack.

During the raids, the anti-terror agency arrested Balai Charan Maity and Manobrata Jana, a Trinamool Congress leader. Police sources said an FIR was filed against officials of the NIA as well as the accompanying security personnel after Jana's wife lodged a complaint accusing the officials of forcibly entering her house and trying to outrage her modesty.

The NIA strongly refuted the allegations, pointing out that the searches were conducted at five locations in the presence of independent witnesses and under the security cover provided by the CRPF, which included women constables.

The probe agency said Maity and Jana were taken into custody following extensive searches. As the team commenced its search operation, the officials were reportedly confronted by a hostile mob, which included women. The situation quickly escalated as the unruly mob launched an assault on the NIA officers, resulting in injury to an official and damage to a vehicle's windscreen.

The NIA said it has filed a written complaint about the attack on its officials at the Bhupatinagar police station. However, no one has been arrested in connection with the attack yet.

The attack on the NIA team evoked memories of January 5 when a team of the Enforcement Directorate officials was attacked by a large crowd in North 24 Parganas district's Sandeshkhali. The ED team came under brutal attack during a search at the house of Shahjahan Sheikh, a Trinamool Congress strongman, in connection with alleged irregularities in the public distribution system in the state.

Bid to intimidate TMC, says Abhishek

Trinamool leader Abhishek Banerjee accused the BJP of using central agencies to intimidate TMC and asserted that people are with the Bengal party. "BJP can have ED, CBI on their side. They are threatening those who are raising their voices against their undemocratic acts. A section of media friends are also siding with the BJP. But people of Bengal are with the TMC," he said

'Attack on officials was unprovoked'

The NIA refuted allegations of 'mala fide' in its raids and said the attack on its officials was 'unprovoked'. "NIA made it clear that its actions were bona fide, lawful, and legally mandated, as part of its ongoing investigation into the heinous crime related to fabrication of crude bombs, leading to an explosion that killed three persons in Naruabila village, PS Bhoopatinagar," it said

TMC targets probe agencies to shield the corrupt: Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kolkata

THE political slugfest over the attack on NIA officials escalated on Sunday with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday alleging that the Trinamool Congress (TMC) was "orchestrating attacks on central investigative agencies" in the state to shield its extortionist and corrupt leaders.

Speaking at a rally in Jalpaiguri in West Bengal, Modi said the TMC desires a free licence for corruption and violence in Bengal, which is why central agencies investigating such cases face attacks in the state. "When central investigative agencies come here, the TMC attacks them...it's a party that crushes the law and the Constitution of the country... you saw what happened in Sandeshkhali. Everyone in the country knows it," he said. Modi added that the TMC's 'Syndicate Raj' prevails in Bengal, and the ruling party in the state is only interested in protecting its corrupt leaders.

"The TMC government seeks to have a free pass for loot and terror in Bengal. To shield its extortionist and corrupt leaders, the TMC orchestrates attacks on central investigative agencies when they come here," he added.

Meanwhile, Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee sought to put the blame on the NIA for the attack. "They are carrying out raids without prior information and barging into houses. What would women do if someone entered their house in the dead of night," she said on Sunday at an election rally.

Jibe at Kharge

On Mallikarjun Kharge's comment on Article 370, Modi said: "The post of Congress president is not a small thing. And the leader thinks Article 370 has nothing to do with Rajasthan. Is Jammu and Kashmir not part of India?"

Vistara cutting 30 flights daily

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

HAVING to cancel over 150 flights in the first week of April due to non-availability of pilots, Vistara on Sunday said it is cancelling 10% of its daily flights in April as it looks to normalise operation.

"We are carefully scaling back our operations by around 25-30 flights per day. This will take us back to the same level of flight operations as at the end of February 2024, and provide the much-needed resilience and buffer in the rosters," said a Vistara spokesperson.

The cancellations are done mostly in the domestic network of Vistara, a joint venture between the Tata Group and Singapore International Airlines. Vistara operates about 300 flights daily and 1,000 pilots on its rolls. Earlier this week, the DGCA sought a daily report from the airline as the issue snowballed into a major embarrassment.

Vistara pilots were not happy with the revised salary structure, which is being "forced upon them" ahead of its merger with Air India, they said.

Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan, a day ago said that 98% of its pilots have signed the new contracts with the revised salary structure. "We are aware that some pilots have some concerns and queries regarding the contract. We are engaging with them to clarify and resolve the same. However, this has not caused any visible spike in attrition among the pilots," Kannan said.

Palestinians return to Khan Yunis after Israel pulled its ground forces out of southern Gaza Strip on Sunday | AFP

UNDER PRESSURE, ISRAEL PULLS FORCES OUT OF SOUTHERN GAZA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

UNDER pressure from the US and allies over the 'unintentional' killing of aid workers, Israel on Sunday adopted a conciliatory approach and pulled out troops from southern Gaza.

The Israeli military in a statement said the 98th commando division has "concluded its mission" in Khan Yunis and left "in order to recuperate and prepare for future operations". However, the Israeli military said it will continue to have presence in the rest of the Gaza Strip.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel is ready for a deal but is not ready to surrender. The partial withdrawal from Gaza should aid the truce talks expected to resume in Cairo. "There will be no ceasefire without the return of hostages. It just won't happen," he said. Netanyahu has been under pressure from the international community after Israel on April 1 dropped bombs on humanitarian workers of US-based food charity World Central Kitchen by mistake.

Last week, US President Joe Biden said his support for the war would depend on Israel curtailing the death of civilians and improving humanitarian conditions in Gaza.

Britain also demanded that the conflict must end. Israel's public broadcaster Channel 11 reported that the remaining forces would be located along the Netzarim Corridor, a route that splits the Gaza Strip in two. Following the global outcry over the death of aid workers, Israeli military sacked two senior officers on Friday. Israeli military's inquiry into the incident revealed that the drone operators did not follow rules and thought the World Central Kitchen's cars were carrying Hamas gunmen.

The Israel Defence Forces apologised for its mistake and sacked a colonel and major for the failure and added that those who carried out the attack could face criminal prosecution. While welcoming the action, World Central Kitchen founder Jose Andres called for an independent probe into the Israeli strike that killed his staff, and warned that the conflict had become a "war against humanity itself."

Reacting to Israel's partial withdrawal, US National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said: "As we understand it, and through their public announcements, it is really just about rest and refit for these troops that have been on the ground for four months and not necessarily, that we can tell, indicative of some coming new operation for these troops." **P11**

EXPRESS READ

Huge cache of explosives recovered

Sukma: Security forces on Sunday recovered a huge cache of explosives from two places in the district, an official said. The seized materials include 350 gelatin sticks, 105 electric detonators, a Barrel Grenade Launcher (BGL), 22 BGL projectors, 19 BGL bombs and Maoist literature, the official added.

46 medicos discharged in B'luru

Bengaluru: Forty-six of the 47 PG students from Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), who were admitted to Victoria Hospital with dehydration and diarrhoea on Friday, were discharged on Sunday. One student continues to receive treatment at the trauma care centre. **P3**

3 killed, 33 injured as bus overturns in C'durga dist

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chitradurga

THREE passengers died, while 33 others sustained injuries after a private sleeper bus they were travelling in overturned near Hanumanthana Kanive of Holalkere taluk in Chitradurga district early on Sunday morning.

The deceased were identified as Ganapathi Kallappa (35), an engineer from Gokarna, Jagadish (45) from Honnavara, and Ronak Singh (45), an engineer from Sakaleshpur, Hassan district.

SP Dharmender Kumar Meena said that rash and negligent driving and overspeeding led to the accident as the driver lost control of the vehicle while negotiating a curve. Two passengers were killed on the spot, while the other died at the hospital. Those who needed tertiary care were rushed to Chitradurga, Shivamogga and Davanagere hospitals.

The private sleeper bus that overturned in Chitradurga district on Sunday | EXPRESS

Eight-month-old child safe

Eight-month-old baby Rishik, who was travelling with his parents Sridevi and Nagaraj, survived the accident as doctors attended to him immediately. Locals rushed to the help of injured passengers, and provided them with breakfast, milk, coffee and water.

All the bodies of the deceased were handed over to their relatives.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

Every day, 2 died in first 2 months of '24 in B'luru

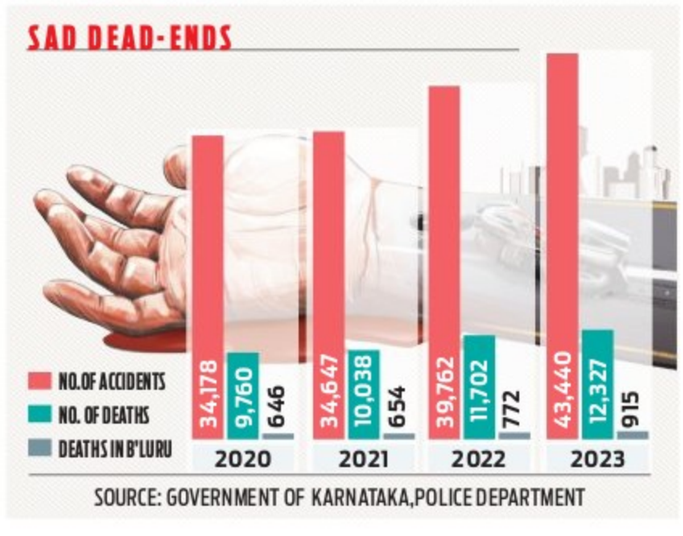
RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

EVERY day, two people are losing their lives on dangerous roads of Bengaluru. In just two months – January and February of this year -- 168 people have lost their lives.

In 2023, 915 people died in road accidents in Bengaluru, while the toll was 12,327 across the state. Since 2019, the number of deaths has steadily gone up.

ADGP, Road Safety and Traffic, Alok Kumar, said that in 2023, an average of 34 people died in road accidents across the state every day. Bengaluru recorded the highest number of 4,974 accidents, in which 915 people died and 4,162 were injured. Bengaluru was followed by Belagavi and Tumakuru.

Most of the accidents were reported during peak traffic hours of 6 pm to 9 pm, While 55-60% of the accidents involved two-wheeler riders, 15-20% had pedestrians as victims. The rest of the accidents involved cars, trucks and autorickshaws. The majority of those who lost their lives were men aged between 18 and 40. Maximum fatalities were reported on national and state highways. The rest of the accidents occurred at key hotspots in the city, including Kengeri, Yeshwanthpur, Chikkajala, Peenya and Yelahanka.



Alok Kumar said, "In certain scenarios, delays in ambulance response and insufficient victim care have resulted in the loss of life. Discussions have been held with district health officers to ensure prompt 108 ambulance response and implementation of post-trauma accident protocols." The primary causes of accidents included reckless driving and inadequate infrastructure, along with a significant number of riders neglecting to wear helmets. Every year, the traffic police issue notices to over 50,000 riders for not wearing helmets. Discussions are on with the government to build walkways along major roads and to install pre-record signboards on national highways and even in the city. There are also plans to enforce use of helmets for children below four years old.

Youth tries to extort poll officials, caught

ENS @ Mysuru

IN a hilarious incident, officers who were on election duty caught a youth, who posed himself as a policeman and tried to extort money from them.

The officers, who were part of the election flying squad, were travelling from Sathagalli bus depot towards Devegowda Circle in a car here on April 4 night. PWD Assistant Engineer Cariappa, Second Division Assistant Mahadev, car driver Likith and Metagalli police station constable Shashikumar were in the car.

Three youth, who were on a motorbike, waylaid the car near Devegowda Circle. Without realising that the vehicle occupants were election officers, the youth claimed themselves to be policemen deputed to check vehicles. **P4**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 08.04.2024 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Sishira • Masa: Phalguna • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Amavasya 12.13 am
Nakshatra: Uttharabhadra 9.58 am • Moon in Mesha Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 22°C | MAX 37°C
FORECAST
Scattered clouds

Sunrise 06.11 am
Sunset 06.31 pm
Moonrise 05.41 am
Moonset 06.14 pm

Ensure no payments by BDA till polls: Ex-min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FORMER minister and senior BJP leader Suresh Kumar has urged the Election Commission of India (ECI) to take steps to ensure that the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) does not make any payments to contractors till the Lok Sabha elections are over.

In a letter to the commission, Kumar said, "There needs to be a check on BDA on payments of Rs 1,000-2,000 crore disbursed to contractors to take up works in Shivaram Karanth Layout, while the restrictions under the Model Code of Conduct are in force. The funds were generated by mortgaging corner sites in Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout."

He also cited media reports that appeared on April 4 and 5 that 2,500 corner sites in Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout were allegedly mortgaged in banks and that BDA had collected Rs 1,000-2,000 crore that is being used to develop Karanth Layout.

"The dates for the Lok Sabha elections were announced by the Election Commission of India on March 15 and from then on, MCC has come into effect. But the BDA, a government agency, has sanctioned Rs 1,000-2,000 crore for infrastructure works in its new layout, Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout. And in addition to this, huge sums of money are being obtained during elections by mortgaging corner plots in the bank. This raises the question of propriety," he wrote in the letter to the ECI. "The ruling Congress in the state is systematically arranging money from shortcuts to be used for election work on the pretext of paying contractors to carry out infrastructure works. I urge the Election Commission to take appropriate steps to ensure that no payments are made by the Bangalore Development Authority till the Lok Sabha elections are over," he added.

PHASE 3 METRO

BMRCL SETS BALL ROLLING FOR LAND ACQUISITION

713 properties, spread across 106 acres, identified; few owners reluctant

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

EVEN as the Metro Phase 3 project awaits clearance from the Centre, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has set in motion the process of acquiring land for the project. A total of 713 properties spread across 106 acres have been identified for acquisition but not all are willing to part with for the project.

Metro Phase 3 will have 21

stations on two elevated corridors-- one running 32.5 km from JP Nagar IV Phase to Kempapura via Outer Ring Road, and another from Hosahalli to Kadabagere on Magadi Road for 12.5km.

The Karnataka Cabinet cleared the project but it is pending with the Centre for months now, and clearance is expected after a new government takes over. "We have begun identification of properties on the first corridor alone now, which needs to be acquired for the line to initiate their acquisition. We require 106 acres here, of which 75 acres is required for the depot alone which will be common for both corridors," said M S Channappa Goudar, General Manager, Land Acquisitions Cell, BMRCL.

Due to the excellent compensation which BMRCL offers, which works out to 200% of the market value, public eagerly come forward to offer their properties for Metro projects. However, at present, three families have registered their protest against acquisition of their properties, he said.

"In the case of these three properties, only a portion of each of the properties is being acquired for the Metro project. They feel that part acquisition will diminish the value of the remaining portion of their land. They want us to take over the entire property or drop it out of acquisition completely. Two of the properties are required for Vinayaka Layout Metro Station," Goudar said.

The properties in question total 165.65 sqm. They are three specific plots of land, 78.18 sqm, 40.14 sqm ad 47.33 sqm.

It is not clear what Metro plans to do about this situation. "BMRCL is presently assessing the situation to see what best can be done," another BMRCL official said.

We have begun identification of properties on the first corridor alone now. We require 106 acres here, of which 75 acres is required for the depot alone— MS Channappa Goudar, General Manager, Land Acquisitions Cell, BMRCL.

DKS moots tunnel road in RR Nagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

"I will explore if we can build a tunnel road in Rajarajeshwari Nagar to ease traffic. Those who wish to head towards North Karnataka, have to go through this area. As there is a ring road in this area, Rajarajeshwari Nagar is an important junction," said Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar.

He was addressing apartment residents of RR Nagar assembly constituency on Sunday, seeking votes for his brother DK Suresh, who is contesting from Bengaluru Rural. "I have received proposals to build a tunnel road in RR Nagar. I will check if it is possible to build one in this area," Shivakumar said.

Stating that he has also received complaints on the drinking water problem in RR Nagar, Shivakumar said, "Through 'Our Water, Our Right' campaign, we have fought for the drinking water rights of Bengaluru. Cauvery 5th Stage work will be completed by May-end, which will solve the drinking water problem in 110 villages."

Shivakumar stated that his brother D K Suresh is the Bengaluru Rural MP, and he being the Bengaluru district-in-charge minister and irrigation minister, it will be beneficial for people as they can together solve water woes. He added that if the problem is not solved now, it cannot be solved anytime in the future.

No Modi wave in state

"When there was a Modi wave, my brother Suresh won with a lead of 2.3 lakh votes. Now there isn't any Modi wave or BJP wave. You all should vote for us earnestly. Only if you vote for us, we can serve you," Shivakumar said.

Through 'Our Water, Our Right' campaign, we have fought for drinking water rights of Bengaluru. Cauvery 5th Stage work will be completed by May-end, which will solve drinking water problem — DK Shivakumar, DCM

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Pet lovers spend time with colourful macaws at the Pet Fiesta in Jayamahal Palace in Bengaluru on Sunday. Macaws are king-sized members of the parrot family and have typical parrot features | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA.

Bengaluru grappling with civic issues, BNP urge authorities to act

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

DESPITE Bengaluru being a booming I-T hub and the city fast growing, it is now grappling with several civic issues, complain members of Bengaluru Navanirmana Party (BNP). Emphasising on the issue, the members pointed out at JP Nagar as an ideal example, that struggles with civic issues like vendor encroachment on footpaths, disregard for traffic laws, obstruction of roads by private vehicles, vendors obstructing free flow of traffic, BBMP garbage trucks parked in the area all night, emanating foul smell posing health problems to people and encroachment of BMTC bus stops by food vendors.

BNP complained that despite the issues being brought to the attention of relevant authorities, it is not addressed and demanded that these issues be addressed at the earliest by the authorities concerned.

Further, it also cited inefficient governance as the root cause of these problems, highlighting the significant gap in the administration's ability to effectively address and resolve the concerns of the residents of the city.

N Thyagarajan, a resident of Casa Ansal Apartment, JP Nagar, expressed his frustration saying, "Food carts, vendors, and the lack of traffic management around all three periphery sides of Casa Ansal Apartment have become a daily nightmare. The accumulation of garbage, traffic congestion, encroached pavements, and disputes with street vendors and drivers have significantly affected our living conditions. In the past, we have submitted request letters to authorities concerned and local leaders about the civic issues here, however, we have not seen any solution to the problems. We request strict enforcement of no-parking zones and the removal of encroachments that obstruct traffic flow and pedestrian access."

Poongothai Paramasivam, Governing Council Member & Zonal Leader - BNP said, "Civic issues are largely ignored by authorities. Numerous complaints are often overlooked until a serious incident occurs. It's unfortunate that citizens must suffer due to this negligence. The reason for persistent unresolved civic issues is the absence of an elected representative in the city due to delayed BBMP elections."

BNP demanded immediate attention from the officials concerned to solve the above-listed issues.

IMD predicts light rain starting from mid-April

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BENGALURU is witnessing sweltering temperatures this year, however, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) brings a glimmer of hope to its citizens, and predicts rainfall in the second week of April.

The city recorded a scorching temperature of 37.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, April 2, the highest in the past eight years and the third highest in the last 15 years.

Highlighting the factors contributing to the rise in temperatures, A Prasad, senior scientist with the IMD, Bengaluru, said, "The El Nino effect, which had an index exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius last year, is currently ongoing with a slightly decreased index of 1.1. Typically during El Nino years, above-normal temperatures and reduced rainfall, particularly over Peninsular India, are common."

Usually in the first week of April, the city typically experiences rainfall. But this year, the rain has been delayed. However, the city is expected to receive pre-monsoon showers, but with a reduced amount of precipitation, the senior official added.

Although the pre-monsoon will bring temporary relief to the city with the temperatures dropping by up to a few degrees Celsius, the respite will be short-lived. The city is expected to receive light rain in April, with a total of 61.7 mm predicted, IMD forecasted. Bengaluru has been consistently experiencing above-average temperatures since the beginning of April, despite the usual average temperature for the month being 34 degrees Celsius. Moreover, the KIA on Friday, April 5, recorded the highest maximum temperature of 38.3 degrees Celsius.

Students of the ESIC Medical College, Rajajinagar with their degrees at the 7th convocation on Saturday. NIMHANS Director Dr Prathima Murthy, Dr Sandhya R, Dean, ESIC Medical College and others handed over the degrees to 94 students

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

08TH April : The current Saturnine pattern is fine for all practical people, builders, engineers and mathematicians. In fact, there's no reason why even individuals who usually live in a state of chaos cannot rise to new heights of efficiency and superb organisation. There is no excuse for unpunctuality or confusion.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
A pleasant lunar pattern favours all adventurous matters, so you may push yourself to the limit, but you should do so in the most relaxed manner possible! On a down-to-earth note, make sure that you're completely aware of your rights in all respects.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Life could be slightly expensive, but there's unlikely to be anything you can't handle. It's also a suitable moment for arranging social excursions, especially to the far corners of the globe. Perhaps, though, it's a voyage of the imagination which catches your fancy.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
A curious and lively period brings few direct planetary alignments, but plenty which make their presence felt in discreet, subtle avenues. As it happens, there will be myriad ways for you to dodge routine commitments and seek out fresh interests.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You should spare a little extra time for health matters and resolve to improve your physical well-being. Although there are indications that you'll have plenty on your plate today, you make a point of considering your diet and exercise regime afresh.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may be struggling to keep private matters from becoming public. You might also have difficulty adjusting to normal daily life - and changing circumstances. The way out of this trap is to change your attitude to your duties, and infuse everything you do with personal creative enthu-siasm. It can be done!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
If other people are taking the lead, then this is a development most earnestly to be encouraged! You'll open up new vistas for the future if you follow where they tread, soaking up new experiences. One word of advice, though - don't believe everything that other people say about each other.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
It's a useful day for short journeys, discussions and interviews, but what seems to be more important is your ability to empathise with other people. That is, you should try to genuinely understand exactly how they feel. Then you might even be able to make decisions on their behalf.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
It's not a bad day for shopping, and there could be the odd bargain on the horizon. However, even such trivial developments could start a train of events that eventually leads to completely unexpected results. Even a minor choice could have epic consequences.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
The ball is in your court today, so you may well have the upper hand. Realise, though, that with every stroke of good fortune comes a duty to others. The most useful thing you can do for yourself now is to change your emotional attitudes, looking at the demands you've been making of others. Perhaps you've not always been fair.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
There is everything to gain from spending some time alone, so don't feel bad about being secretive or keeping your feelings to yourself. In all discussions and debates express yourself forcefully, but without tipping over into aggression.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Partners or close companions still imagine that you will run true to form, but how wrong they are. This is an extraordinarily powerful week for you to defy all such misplaced expectations. Sooner or later a partner will realise that you were right!

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Take command. As a Piscean you are not normally considered a natural leader, yet one of your deeper skills is your ability to lead from behind! Your talents in this respect are extremely subtle, and in the right situation you need only click your fingers for others to do what you want.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

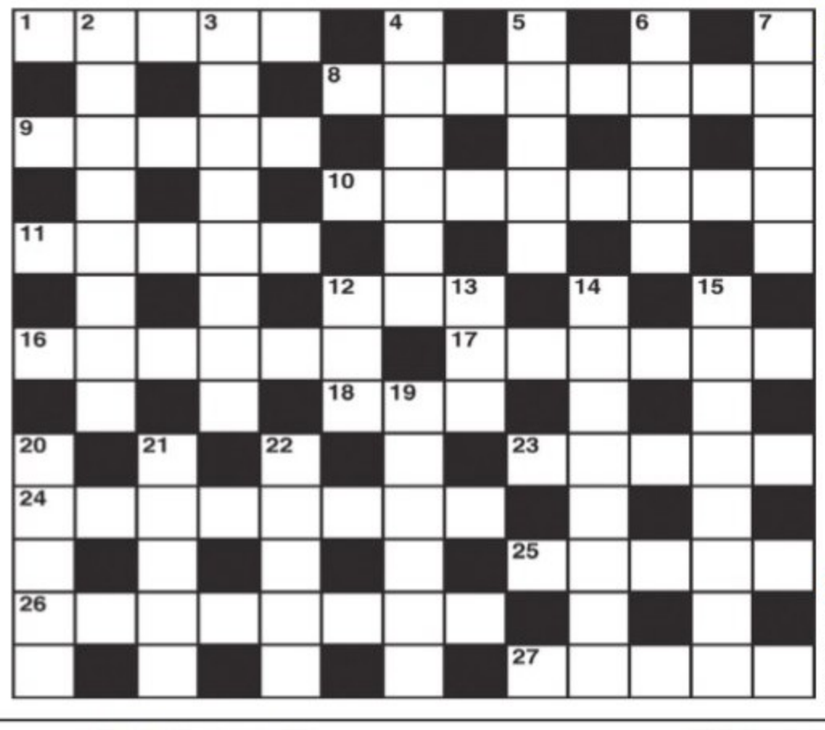
7			9	8				6
	9		3					
		4			1	7	3	
3							4	
	6			5			9	
	1							8
	8	7	1			3		
					4		8	
9				7	3			2

7	1	8	3	5	9	4	2	6
3	2	5	1	6	4	8	9	7
4	9	6	2	7	8	5	3	1
6	3	2	5	1	7	9	4	8
8	5	9	4	3	6	1	7	2
1	7	4	8	9	2	6	5	3
9	6	3	7	4	1	2	8	5
5	8	1	9	2	3	7	6	4
2	4	7	6	8	5	3	1	9

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 But it's not an impediment to getting a lift (5)
8 Equestrian ability acquired by large majority (4,4)
9 Frank impression (5)
10 He will have an inclination to be utterly determined (4-4)
11 Sole member of citrus family (5)
12 Sound alternative to sail (3)
16 Passenger ship has a slender look (6)
17 A quiet look by doctor shows self-possession (6)
18 Part of a wheel that projects about a centimetre (3)
23 Elevate one among many (5)
24 Has a cigarette and looks happier (6,2)
25 Side where the brightest is best off (5)
26 Showed annoyance in grating nutmeg? (8)
27 Stone someused to flag a terrace (5)

DOWN
2 Flying is not yet developed (2,3,3)
3 Come on, Mr Wild is not entitled (8)
4 She provides father with a cooked meal (6)
5 Give a hand (5)
6 Cut and serve out (5)
7 Condition of the nation (5)
12 Type of whale that comes in for criticism (3)
13 Batter with butter (3)
14 Permitting everyone to be in debt (8)
15 To break a strike is a tremendous success (5,3)
19 Morning spent being entertained (6)
20 Ammunition to haul on board (5)
21 One's caught in a trap once more (5)
22 Otto makes a mince tart (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Undertakes, 6 Laic, 10 Lotto, 11 Leviathan, 12 Oratorio, 13 Ounce, 15 Overdue, 17 Soloist, 19 Detests, 21 Morocco, 22 Omega, 24 Altitude, 27 Nefarious, 28 Range, 29 Sent, 30 Advertiser.

Down: 1 Ugli, 2 Deterrent, 3 Roost, 4 At large, 5 Envious, 7 Ashen, 8 Contention, 9 Caroller, 14 Good points, 16 Despairs, 18 Incidents, 20 Sea Lord, 21 Matisse, 23 Elfin, 25 Tarot, 26 Hear.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

CEETL

GENIF

CATHAT

DMREAD

THEODORE'S GLASSWARE
They are all one-of-a-kind and safe for any liquids.
I've never seen one like this. Can I use it for wine?
HIS CUSTOM, OPEN-TOPPED BOTTLES MADE FOR POURING BEVERAGES WERE ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____ - _____ - _____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PROOF SPURN GLITZY ELICIT
Answer: When people came together for the barn raising, it was — UPLIFTING

Forest officials of Hunsur Wildlife Division on Sunday arrested four persons for allegedly hunting a spotted deer at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve. As much as 25 kg of venison, a deer skull, pelt and other parts of the animal and three bikes were seized from them

ENGINEER CREATES PANIC AT KIA, CLAIMS TO HAVE BOMB IN BAGGAGE

Man not allowed to board flight, booked under stringent non-bailable section of the IPC

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

A 47-year-old engineer from Maharashtra, who created panic inside Terminal 2 of the Kempegowda International Airport by falsely claiming to have a bomb in his baggage when it was being scanned, was not allowed to board his flight. An FIR was filed against Sanjay Pai on Friday (April 5) for disturbing public peace.

The case was filed a week after the incident as court permission was required to go ahead with booking the case under the stringent non-bailable Section 505 (1) (b) of IPC. It deals with spreading rumours/statements made with the intention of causing fear or alarm and disturbing public tranquillity, states the FIR copy.

Pai, a native of Sohanipat in Thane, was to board an Air Indian Express flight from Bengaluru to Pune on March 28. "The incident occurred near the checking counter of E-9 post 10 pm when the baggage scanning was carried out before the departure of I5 829 flight from Bengaluru," said the report.

When the checking of Pai's baggage was being done by the executive at the airline kiosk, he claimed loudly, "There is a bomb in my baggage," leaving those standing in the queue shocked.

Samruddhi, who was on duty at that time, immediately alerted the Central Industrial Security Force personnel nearby who then took over. Pai was detained at the airport, thoroughly checked and his baggage rechecked fully and it was found out to be fake. He was not allowed to fly.

Samruddhi later filed a complaint at the BIAL police station. The complaint was presented before the Judicial Magistrate First Class court at Devanahalli and permission taken to file the FIR. It was finally filed on Friday by assistant manager, security, Airport Operations Agnimitra Bahinipati. The offence under this specific section invites a three-year imprisonment or fine or both.

Fire and emergency personnel battled the blaze in a tyre godown at TR Mills in Chamarajpet for more than 10 hours on Sunday | EXPRESS

Fire guts tyre godown in Chamarajpet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A tyre godown in Chamarajpet was completely gutted in a fire that broke out in a multi-storey building at 4.40am on Sunday. While the exact cause of the incident remains unknown, authorities suspect it may have been triggered by a short circuit. Eight fire tenders, one each from from Mysuru Road, High Grounds, Banashankari, Rajajinagar, Sarjapura, Nagarabhavi and two tenders from Banasawadi were pressed into service to douse the fire, which took more than 10 hours to bring under control. However, no casualties were reported.

A fire department official said the multi-storey building near TR Mills in Chamarajpet, where the fire broke out, housed tyres sold to approximately six shops. The fire department was alerted about the incident by a security guard who saw flames leaping out of the building. Nearby houses were evacuated as a precautionary measure until the fire was partially extinguished, the official added.

Cholera scare: 46 discharged, one in hosp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FORTY-six of the 47 PG students of the Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), who were admitted to Victoria Hospital with dehydration and diarrhea on Friday, have been discharged. One student, continues to receive treatment at the trauma care centre, with a culture report still pending, said Dr Ramesh Krishna K, Dean and Director of BMCRI.

Following the incident, the hostel where the students were staying was closed and students were provided with food from the Victoria Hospital. On Saturday, three of the students tested positive for cholera. However, the hostel water samples tested negative for cholera.

Health Commissioner Randeep D said, "All government and private hospitals have been instructed to report any confirmed cases of cholera to the integrated health information portal. Following the identification of five positive cases in Bengaluru, efforts are underway to map these cases geographically to ascertain whether they constitute isolated incidents or if there are indications of clustered outbreaks."

Auto driver held for assaulting BMTC driver

Bengaluru: A 28-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly assaulting a BMTC driver in Kumaraswamy Layout.

Two persons had allegedly assaulted BMTC driver, Nagendra, on April 4. The arrested has been identified as Nandan (28), an autorickshaw driver, while the other accused, Jana (26), a painter, is absconding.

The police said on April 4, Nagendra halted the bus at the 15 E bus stand in Kumaraswamy Layout. Two unidentified individuals, in a drunken state, arrived at the bus stop and started shouting. Nagendra, who was sleeping in the bus, woke up and questioned them.

This led to a heated argument, during which one of the accused abused Nagendra and punched him in the face. While another accused used a machete and hit Nagendra's left hand. As the conductor started video recording the attack, the accused fled the scene. ENS

Father, son forge site documents, get mortgage loans from banks

YATHIRAJU@Bengaluru

OWNERS have to think twice about keeping their sites vacant, and assume they are safe. A father and son in Jnanabharathi police station limits in Bengaluru have created, concocted and forged fake documents for eight vacant sites, and got them registered at a Sub-Registrar's office. They also went ahead and mortgaged the sites and took loans using bogus records.

One of the eight cases came to light when a site owner, Raghavendra Rajarao, a 51-year-old computer professional from HMT Layout, filed a complaint with Jnanabharathi police station on March 11, alleging that his site had been mortgaged with State Bank of India (SBI) by Shivanna (37), son of Veerabhadrappa (87), residing at Mallathahalli.

Rao stated that he had bought site No.47 at Mallathahalli in Bengaluru North three decades ago, and pays tax regularly to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). He used to visit the site often but was surprised to see a possession notice put up on the site by SBI on his last visit on February 22.

Suspecting something fishy, he checked with SBI and learnt that the site had been registered with fabricated documents, and a loan had been taken on it. The encumbrance certificate revealed that one Achukuttan PA had bought the site from Shivanna, who got it from his father Veerabhadrappa.

Rao alleged that the Sub-Registrar of Peenya and BBMP officials were also part of this conspiracy. Surprisingly, even bank officials delayed taking action on this illegal transaction. Similar offences were committed by Shivanna in the surrounding areas to knock off sites, Rao alleged.

Meanwhile, both father and son moved court, seeking anticipatory bail on the ground that they were innocent. Countering it, the investigating officer filed a report, stating that eight criminal cases had been registered against Shivanna and his father from 2012 onwards on similar charges. However, counsel for the accused submitted that in all the cases, the accused was granted bail but had not placed documents in support of his claim before the court.

Judge Shivakumara B, 38th Additional City Civil and Sessions Court, observed that the allegations against the accused are serious since they have cheated the complainant by colluding with other accused. Investigation is still at the nascent stage and custodial interrogation of the accused looks necessary, the judge said refusing to grant anticipatory bail to both father and son.

CRIME PATROL

Alcoholic strangles wife to death

A drunk man strangled his wife to death using a saree, while their nine-year-old child was sleeping in the room, at Ranganathapura on Saturday night. Police arrested Venkatesh (38), a garment factory worker, on Sunday. The deceased is Netravathi (32) from Magadi taluk. Police said Venkatesh, an alcoholic, came home drunk and assaulted Netravathi after an argument over domestic matters before allegedly strangling her, and fleeing. The incident came to light when neighbours, on Sunday morning, noticed the child crying for a long time and went to the house to find Netravathi lying dead. ENS

Two killed in separate accidents

In a hit-and-run case, a 70-year-old woman died on the spot after a car knocked her down in Anand Nagar on Bengaluru-Tumakuru National Highway, on Sunday morning. The deceased, Narayanamma, is a resident of Byatha near Hesaraghatta. The police said around 11.30 am, Narayanamma tried to cross the highway when a speeding SUV knocked her down. Nelamangala traffic police have registered a case. In another incident, Raghu (30), a resident of Huvinayakanahalli who worked at an IT firm, was killed after a lorry hit his two-wheeler on the Mylanahalli-Bagaluru Road on Saturday. ENS

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

Hi Life Exhibition in Bengaluru

Style up your spring summer look with the season's top haute couture fashion collections as India's benchmark fashion showcases Hi Life Exhibitions is back.

Make a cool fashion statement this summer with the newest fashion collections. Style up your new look with a stunning range of designer wear, jewellery, bridal wear, fashion accessories & much more.

Come, shop the trendsetting fashion collections, Be there on 8th and 9th April at The Lalit Ashok.

The saffron party will win all 28 seats in the state and Congress candidate D K Suresh will lose his deposit in Bengaluru Rural constituency. BJP workers are giving their best and working in tandem to defeat the Congress

Radha Mohan Das Agarwal, BJP election in-charge

POLLING DATE
PHASE-2 APRIL 26
PHASE-3 MAY 7

DAYS TO GO
PHASE-2 18
PHASE-3 29

TOTAL SEIZURES
₹2,77,59,00,168

FIRS BOOKED
1,384

COMPLAINTS ON CVIGIL 18,622

CCB SEIZED 4 KG DRUGS (Methamphetamine) worth Rs. 4 crore in Shettihalli, Bengaluru North Parliamentary Constituency

Public grievance call received through Voters Helpline 14,477

TWEET OF THE DAY

We in Karnataka are proud that state's own tax revenue (SOTR) contributes 77% our revenue receipts. Perhaps the highest of any state in India. It's a self-reliant state. We get so little from the central govt, as a share of our budget it's probably the lowest in the whole country. This despite paying the second highest taxes in the country. **@krishnabgowda,**
Revenue Minister, Government of Karnataka

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah campaigns for Bengaluru South candidate Sowmya Reddy and Bengaluru North candidate Prof Rajeev Gowda on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Siddu hits campaign trail, appeals to people to bring dignity to their vote

Expresses confidence that Rajeev Gowda, Sowmya Reddy will bag Bengaluru North, South

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah hit the campaign trail on Sunday, throwing his weight behind Congress candidates Prof Rajeev Gowda and Sowmya Reddy in Bengaluru North and South Lok Sabha constituencies, respectively.

"(Union Minister and BJP candidate from Bengaluru North) Shobha Karandlaje, who faced go-back slogans from BJP workers in Udupi-Chikkamagalur, has come here. You can also send her back from here," he told voters. He was optimistic that Prof Gowda will certainly win as he is a qualified candidate with good knowledge and concern for the society.

FM DID NOT ACCEPT OFFER FOR DEBATE: CM

Siddaramaiah reiterated that the state has been subjected to injustice by the Centre regarding devolution of tax and not even a single rupee has been released under NDRF for drought relief. "Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman did not accept our challenge for an open debate even as she was in Bengaluru on Saturday. She lied that the release of drought relief was delayed due to the model code of conduct being in place and the matter is with the ECI. But we had submitted our proposal in September 2023, and met her, the PM and the home minister in December 2023," he pointed out. He gave a call to 7 crore Kannadigas to gain self-respect by defeating the BJP as it has continuously betrayed the people of the state.

In Bengaluru South, Siddaramaiah held several roadshows and came down heavily on (BJP candidate) Tejasvi Surya, terming the latter is an "inactive MP" who did not raise his voice in the parliament in the interest of the state. "We call Surya as 'amavasya' (new moon) as he has not spoken once about injustice meted out to the state. He has not ensured drinking water, better roads, proper drainage system and disbursal of waste for the constituency. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the last ten years, has failed to fulfil the promises he had made. Keep this in mind and elect Sowmya Reddy, who is an active politician," he said.

He also attacked Shobha on the same lines. "As vice-chairman of state policy and planning commission, Rajeev Gowda has high academic qualifications and knowledge, who constantly raises his voice on injustices of the state, and will bring dignity for your vote. Be sensible and elect Prof Gowda," he said.

Siddaramaiah also attacked JDS supremo and former PM H D Deve Gowda for joining hands with the BJP. "Deve Gowda, who had said that he would leave India if Modi became the PM again, has now joined Modi," he said.

In summer heat, Palace City to host high-voltage campaign

K SHIVAKUMAR @ Mysuru

CAMPAIGNING for the Lok Sabha elections is expected to heat up in Old Mysuru region after the festival of Ugadi, and a posse of leaders is expected to descend on the City of Palaces. They will include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Mallikarjuna Kharge and other top brass.

Mega rallies will be held in Maharaja's College, and top leaders of the I.N.D.I.A and NDA blocs are expected to add vigour, with the BJP-JDS and Congress in the race to take control of Old Mysuru and win maximum seats.

Both BJP candidate Yaduveer Krishnadutta Chamaraja Wadiyar and Congress candidate M Lakshman have completed one round of campaigning in Mysuru city and are reaching other assembly segments of Mysuru-Kodagu constituency.

The BJP and Congress have also planned roadshows. The BJP will hold a rally on April 19, to be addressed by PM Modi, former PM H D Deve Gowda, and former chief ministers HD Kumaraswamy and BS Yediyurappa. The party also plans to bring in Backward Classes leader and Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The rally will also send a message of unity and enthuse BJP and JDS workers to work for the victory of BJP candidate Yaduveer on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's home turf.

Siddaramaiah is expected to campaign for three days from April 12 in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar Lok Sabha constituencies, along with Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar. Ministers Satish Jarkiholi and G Parameshwara, KPCC working president Tanveer Sait and others will campaign to consolidate the votes of backward communities, minorities and Dalits. Shivakumar will also hold meetings of Vokkaliga leaders and reach out to the community.

The KPCC has also sought a rally by Rahul Gandhi and I.N.D.I.A leaders in parts of the Chamarajanagar constituency, and Ranjit Singh Surjewala, KC Venugopal and others are expected to campaign.

POLL VAULT

Modi likely to campaign in Bengaluru on April 14

Bengaluru: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to be in Bengaluru for election campaigning on April 14. He is also expected to campaign in Chikkaballapura. This will be Modi's second visit to Karnataka after the poll dates were announced. A senior BJP leader said Modi will visit Andhra Pradesh on April 14 and he is expected to come to Karnataka as well. "We are waiting for confirmation from the Prime Minister's Office. The PMO will set the roadmap as well," said the leader. With internal bickering in the party regarding Bengaluru North and Chikkaballapura Loka Sabha constituencies, leaders are hoping that Modi's presence will help them garner more votes. There is opposition to Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje who is contesting from Bengaluru North Lok Sabha constituency. Sitting MP DV Sadananda Gowda, who had earlier expressed displeasure over the ticket, and BJP MLA ST Somashekar (Yeshwantpura Assembly constituency), who openly campaigned for the Congress candidate, and Dr K Sudhakar, who is contesting from Chikkaballapura, are facing brickbats from local leaders. Earlier, Modi had visited Kalaburagi and Shivamogga, covering some of the Lok Sabha constituencies. "We do not know if the PMO will agree for a rally in Bengaluru," said sources. **ENS**

Cadres brave intense heat to campaign

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

OUTDOOR campaigning for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections has become a challenging task for candidates and their party cadres as Dakshina Kannada district has been witnessing extreme temperatures.

Sudarshan, former Dakshina Kannada BJP president, said door-to-door campaigning in rural areas is tough as houses are scattered.

"We have completed the first round of door-to-door campaigning. We are covering a maximum of 100 houses a day. Due to steady rise in temperature in the past few days, we start outdoor campaigning early in the morning and wind up by 11.30 am and start again by 4 pm and continue till late night. Even voters provide us drinking water. Also we are restricting senior party members from venturing out in the sun for campaign work, especially at noon," he said.

Another BJP worker said, "We are making people from an area or a colony gather at a designated place. We keep ourselves hydrated. However, we do not have any other option but to go out and work for our candidate though there are hurdles," she said.

Prashanth, who is part of the campaign team of the Congress candidate, said they are distributing caps to party workers to protect themselves from the scorching heat.

"In rural areas, houses are scattered and we have to walk a lot where there are no approach roads. Rising temperature has also affected in gathering people for our public meetings. We carry water and fruits to keep ourselves hydrated. Also, I wear mostly cotton clothes," he said.

PRAJWAL APOLOGISES TO RSS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hassan

NDA candidate from Hassan Lok Sabha constituency Prajwal Revanna on Sunday tendered an apology for his alleged remarks against the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), at a joint campaign meeting in Hassan and Sakleshpur.

It may be recalled that Prajwal, at a JDS workers' meeting, had lashed out at the RSS and its functionaries, saying they will run away if JDS youth workers wake up. Prajwal also ridiculed the RSS and compared JDS youth workers to lions.

Tendering an apology while campaigning in Hassan, where Brahmin community members were present, Prajwal said he didn't know about the responsibilities of RSS and its functionaries and had made the remarks due to ignorance about the RSS. Later, he realised that RSS and its workers are committed to working for the welfare of society and nation, without expecting anything.

The audio of Prajwal attacking the RSS went viral on social media, following which RSS workers expressed unhappiness. Prajwal tendered his apology in the presence of JDS leader and former Brahmin Development Corporation TC Anantasubbarao, former Hassan ZP president Satyanarayana and BJP leader and former Arasikere TMC president ND Prasad. Prajwal also tendered an apology while campaigning at Sakleshpur town on Saturday.

Quit as state BJP president and I won't contest, KSE tells Vijayendra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

SENIOR BJP leader K S Eshwarappa has asked BJP state president B Y Vijayendra to step down from the post if the latter really wants him to withdraw from contesting as an independent in the Shivamogga Lok Sabha constituency.

"Why should former CM B S Yediyurappa's family hold all the key positions in the party?" Eshwarappa added in response to Vijayendra's request that he reconsider his decision to contest.

Vijayendra, who arrived here on Sunday to campaign for his brother and BJP candidate B Y Raghavendra, said, "There is a need to work together to make Narendra Modi prime minister again. Raghavendra will win for the fourth time by a margin of two lakh votes. Hence, I request Eshwarappa with folded hands to reconsider his decision."

Eshwarappa said if Vijayendra wants him not to contest, the latter should resign from the post of state president. "Who gave you the authority to say that Eshwarappa is talking to the central leaders?" he asked.

Stepping up his attack, Eshwarappa said Vijayendra's father, Yediyurappa, is a member of the BJP Parliamentary Board, his brother Raghavendra is an MP, and Vijayendra himself is an MLA. "The Yediyurappa family kept the post of BJP state president vacant for six months to ensure that it is given to one of their family members. Should all the power rest in the hands of Yediyurappa and his children?" Eshwarappa said.

He challenged the Yediyurappa family to give the BJP state president post to former minister Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, a Lingayat, or to party leader CT Ravi, a Vokkaliga, or to him, an OBC.

"Before asking me not to contest, ask your brother not to contest. I am still a BJP worker. I have decided to contest. If I contest, what can the BJP do? Oust me, right? That's all you can do. I will win this time by a margin of three lakh votes. If ousted, I will rejoin the BJP after winning," he said.

He said when the top brass called him to New Delhi, he could not meet them. "This means that the BJP has to be freed from the Yediyurappa family and defeat Raghavendra in the elections," he said.

Excise special squad with the seized liquor in Hassan on Sunday | EXPRESS

Liquor worth Rs 10 crore seized in Hassan dist

Hassan: The special squad of the district excise department seized alleged unaccounted liquor worth Rs 10.50 crore from the Woodpecker Distilleries and Beverages Pvt Ltd and various parts of Hassan district on Sunday. The squad seized 5.63 lakh litres of liquor and beer as well as 51 vehicles. Cases have been registered against 970 persons in this connection. **ENS**

NO VOTE, NO VOICE

Volunteers take part in a walk to spread awareness among the public to exercise their franchise in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, in Bengaluru on Sunday

SUCI TO FIELD CANDIDATES IN 19 LS SEATS IN KARNATAKA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

CANDIDATES of the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) (SUCI-C) will contest the Lok Sabha elections from 19 constituencies, including Belagavi, in Karnataka, said SUCI Belagavi Lok Sabha candidate Laxman Jadagannavar.

He told the media in Belagavi on Sunday, "Capitalist parties which were criticized by the people when they were in power for their anti-people policies, are now reaching out to people with new faces and new guarantee schemes. SUCI-C which is fighting every day to resolve the issues of the working class, farmers and labourers, has decided to contest this election without any alliance. Our party will field candidates in 151 Lok Sabha constituencies in 19 states and three Union Territories. In Karnataka, candidates will be fielded in 19 constituencies."

"The BJP-led NDA government has sold the lives of people. The BJP, which had raised its voice over price rise of essential commodities, unemployment and corruption in the 2014 elections, is now observing silence. The 'Gujarat Model' which created a lot of hype in 2014, has gone missing. Leave alone bringing back black money from Swiss banks, this government has done its best not to disclose information about electoral bonds which are with State Bank of India. India has remained at the bottom in the Global Hunger Index and Gross Development Product (GDP).

"The Congress, which destroyed the country over several decades, is now seeking another chance. Capitalists such as Ambani and Adani have become the richest capitalists during Modi's rule," he alleged.

This election is between capitalists and labourers. Left parties were required to come up with a union to fight for the downtrodden, poor, working class and farmers, but that has not happened. Election is not a solution, socialism is the true solution. The irony is that Left parties such as CPI and CPI-M have joined hands with I.N.D.I.A for a few MP seats, by sidelining their main objective. Therefore, SUCI has decided to contest this election," he said.

SUCI district leaders Lakkappa Bijjannavar, Raju Ganagi and others were present.

Bid to extort poll officials: Two others escape

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE youth asked the officers to hand over cash they were carrying in the vehicle.

As the youth started demanding money from the officers, the police constable Shashikumar got down from the car and questioned them. Realising that they had landed in trouble, the youth tried to escape. But Shashikumar caught one of them, Made Gowda alias Madhu, a resident of Yaraganahalli. Two others managed to escape. The arrested youth was later handed over to the Alanahalli police station.

The tanpuras and sitars of Miraj have been awarded the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tags. These instruments are in much demand among renowned artists. The tradition of making the instruments goes back more than 300 years, with over seven generations involved in the art

Jagan: Naidu a sadist, can't see good of the poor

Those supporting TDP chief too of the same bent of mind, says Andhra CM

CEO ISSUES NOTICE TO JAGAN

Chief Electoral Officer Mukesh Kumar Meena on Sunday issued a notice to Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for his adverse remarks against TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu during his public meetings and YSRC's 'Memanta Siddham'. The CEO directed Jagan to respond to the notice within 48 hours.

Naidu is a sadist as he created hurdles in the government's plans to introduce English medium schools. He is a sadist for comparing Andhra, which is transferring benefits to the poor, to Sri Lanka that crumbled due to economic crisis

Jagan Mohan Reddy, Chief Minister, AP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Vijayawada

ANDHRAPRADESH Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a blistering attack on TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu calling him a sadist and also blamed him for the suicide of Gitanjali, a woman beneficiary of the YSRC government's housing scheme.

Incidentally, Jagan reiterated sadist remarks against Naidu on a day when the Election Commission of India served notices on him for making similar comments against the Opposition leader.

On the 10th day of Memantha Siddham campaign that entered Prakasam district, Jagan slammed Naidu for being responsible for the death of elderly men and women by stopping volunteers from disbursing the pensions at their doorsteps. Explaining as to why he called Naidu a sadist, Jagan said, "Naidu is a sadist because he can't digest if something good is done to others. He cannot see a poor empowering himself and becoming rich."

Adding further, Jagan said Naidu is a sadist who created hurdles for his government's efforts to distribute landsites to the poor and also for his comments that agriculture is redundant.

Jagan did not stop there and went on to add that Naidu is a sadist for his derogatory remarks against the SCs, STs and BCs. "Naidu is a sadist as he created hurdles for the government in its plans to introduce English medium of instruction in government schools. He is a sadist for comparing Andhra Pradesh, which is transferring benefits to the poor, to Sri Lanka that crumbled due to economic crisis," Jagan thundered.

"Not just Naidu, the entire gang supporting him are sadists for their derogatory remarks against the volunteers. Naidu is also the biggest sadist as he is responsible for the death of Gitanjali, a beneficiary of housing scheme, by posting derogatory posts in social media through his psychos," he said.

FSTs seize ₹3.9 cr on express train to Tirunelveli

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Flying Squad Teams (FST) seized Rs 3.98 crores from three men who were travelling on an express train headed from Tambaram to Tirunelveli on Saturday night.

Police sources said that the trio allegedly informed them during investigations that the cash was being taken for distribution to voters in Tirunelveli under the instruction of BJP's Lok Sabha candidate Nainar Nagendran.The flying squad officials informed the Tambaram police who have registered a case and arrested the trio.

One among the three arrested, Sathish (33), was the manager of hotel Blue Diamond in Purasaiwalkam that is owned by Nainar Nagendran and was also a card holding member of the BJP.

A police source identified the other two as Naveen (26) and Perumal (26). Later on Sunday, speaking to reporters at Tirunelveli, Nagendran said that he had no connection to the Rs four-crore cash which was seized in Chennai. He accused the DMK of resorting to such tactics due to BJP's possibility of winning in Tirunelveli.

A senior police officer told TNIE, "The three men, who were travelling in a reserved compartment of the train, had five bags of cash with them containing Rs 3,98,91,500. When questioned, they said that they were taking the money to Tirunelveli to distribute to the voters there. They were instructed by Nainar Nagendran to do so, they claimed."

This was among the largest cash seizures so far this election season. Based on a complaint, the trio were booked under section 171 (c) (undue influence at elections) (e) (punishment for bribery) (h) (Illegal payments in connection with an election) and 188 (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of the IPC and were arrested.

₹5.60 CR CASH, 3 KG GOLD SEIZED FROM JEWELLER IN BALLARI

Ballari: In a major raid, the Ballari Brucepet Police seized Rs 5.60 crore unaccounted cash, Rs 1.40 crore worth 3 kg gold and Rs 42 lakh worth silver ornaments on Sunday. According to police, the raid was conducted at the residence of jewellery shop owner Naresh Soni. Police said the owner failed to produce documents related to the cash and seized valuables. A case has been registered at Brucepet police station.

BURNING MATTER

A major forest fire breaks out near Ralliah Dam in Kotagiri. Fire and rescue teams along with local panchayat workers have been trying to control the fire for the last four days | S SENBAGAPANDIYAN

EXPRESS READ

Nadda can go ahead with rally: Madras HC

MADURAI: Hindrance for the traffic and free movement of the people is not a ground to reject a rally, the Madurai Bench of Madras HC said in a special sitting on Sunday, and directed the Tiruchy district authorities to grant permission for BJP national president JP Nadda's rally in Tiruchy on Sunday. Justice K Murali Shankar made the direction while hearing the case in a petition filed by the Tiruchy BJP district secretary Rajasekaran seeking direction to authorities to permit a rally from Gandhi Market Arch to Malaikottai by JP Nadda as the district authorities denied permission.

Heatwave: Jumbos stray into villages

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Madikeri

SOARING temepratures, and depleting water levels in the forest zone has resulted in elephant herds frequently visit the estates of Kajuru village, Somwarpet taluk, in search of water and fodder. This has sparked fear among the residents.

They allege that the forest zone has no adequate water or fodder for the tuskers, resulting in their frequent visits to the estates.

However, Madikeri DCF Bhaskar assured that remedial measures will be taken to control the elephant movement in this zone.

Gadag sets new record at 41°C

With heatwaves prevailing across Karnataka, Gadag has recorded its highest temperature, 41°C. The highest temperature recorded was in April 2016 which was 40.5°C. The district has been witnessing drought for the last two years and there is no sign of rain. IMD had warned that heatwaves will continue in some districts of North Karnataka for three more days. Gadag District Health Department officials have suggested people to drink enough water, coconut water, fruit juice and lemon juice to keep themselves hydrated. Keep glucose packets in case of emergencies, the department added. All traffic signals now have green shades to protect two-wheeler riders who wait at the signals.

A herd of elephants cross the Somwarpet-Sakleshpur Road | EXPRESS

More heat in coastal K'taka

Heat wave conditions are likely to continue in isolated pockets of interior Karnataka. Hot and humid weather is very likely to prevail over Coastal Karnataka. Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Kodagu districts recorded 38.1 degrees Celsius to 40 degrees Celsius in the last 24 hours and the forecast is that this will continue for a few more days.

'Deforestation main culprit'

The highest recorded temeprature in Shivamogga was 42°C last summer. This year it is expected to increase by 1-1.5°C. Environmentalists consider increased deforestation and reduced green cover in the name of development, the main reason for rise in temperature.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

SINGASANDRA BRANCH
37/1, Hosur Main Road, Singasandra.
Mobile number: 9141421159;
email id : cb4785@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE [Section 13(4)] (For Immovable property)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank** under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **05.04.2021** calling upon the borrower **Prop : Sri Lakshmi Jewellers represented by its proprietor Mr Jagadish MG** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs. 87,74,009/- (Rupees Eighty Seven Lakh Seventy Four Thousand and nine only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **03 rd of April of the year 2024.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and anydealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the CANARA BANK for an amount of **Rs.1,07,86,770.95/-(Rupees. One Crore Seven Lakh Eighty Six Thousands Seven Hundred Seventy and Paise Ninety Five only)** and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property : Residential property bearing Muncipal New No.26. Old No.18/19, previous corporation No.18-26 of BBMP ward No. 152, Sudgunte Palya, Old ward No. 63 , Lakkasandra, situated at 2nd cross Balaji Nagar, DRC Post,Bangalore-560029 measuring East to West 30 feet. Bounded: On the North by: Road. On the South by: private Property, On the East by: Property 18-19/26, On the West by: Private Property no 17.

Date: 03-04-2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Bangalore. Canara Bank

KITTUR RANI CHANNAMMA RESIDENTIAL SAINIK SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
KITTUR–591 115. DIST: BELAGAVI State : Karnataka (India)
Ph No: 08288–234601/234605/ Cell : 9483501100
E-Mail:- kittursanikschool@gmail.com Website : www.kittursainikaschool.in

VACANCIES

1. Kittur Rani Channamma Residential sainik school for Girls Kittur an all girls fully residential school, affiliated to the CBSE and member of the IPSC needs the following:-

(a) TGT (Eng), (Maths) and (Hindi): Post graduation / Graduation in subject concerned with B Ed, teaching experience from Classes VI to X in a CBSE School. Pay Scale: 9300 - 34800 with Grade Pay of Rs. 4200 Entry Pay Rs. 14,430/- Total starting emoluments Rs. 34632/- per month.

(b) Lady Psychologist cum Counsellor: The candidate should have relevant degree in Counselling and experience.

(c) Western Music Teacher: Proficiency in Western music instruments like Piano/Guitar etc. Preference will be given to those who have experience in Schools.

(d) Physical Education Teacher: Post graduation/ Graduation with BP Ed, with experience in a School. Pay Scale: 9300 - 34800 with Grade Pay of Rs. 4200 Entry Pay Rs. 13,500/- Total starting emoluments Rs. 32,400/- per month.

(e) Warden: Consolidated salary Rs.8000.00 Per month.

(f) Horse Trainer:

Salary: For (b) (c) and (f) salary will be fixed based on qualifications and experience.

Perks: Free Food. Single / family accommodation available. Please apply with recent pass port size colour photograph and copies of relevant testimonials by registered AD to The Principal Kittur Rani Channamma Residential Sainik School for Girls, Kittur-591115 Dist: Belagavi, Karnataka Last date for receipt of applications 21.04.2024 or post bio date sainikschoolkittur@gmail.com.

Sd/-
Principal

Date: 01.04.2024

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.**, having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **No.23/1, 17th Cross, M C Layout, Near Maruthi Mandir, Vijay Nagar, Bangaluru, Bengaluru Rural - 560040, Bengaluru-Vijay Nagar Branch,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **12-01-2024** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mr. S. Umesh, S/o. Mr. Suryanarayana, No.41/5, Dadys Garden, Kammasandra, Opp. Olive Apartments, Electronic City Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560100. Also at, Mr. S. Umesh, S/o. Mr. Suryanarayana, No.339D, Bommasandra, Anekal TK, Bangalore - 560100. No.2) Mrs. Nirmala, W/o. Mr. S. Umesh, No.41/5, Dadys Garden, Kammasandra, Opp. Olive Apartments, Electronic City Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560100. Also at, Mrs. Nirmala, W/o. Mr. S. Umesh, No.339D, Bommasandra, Anekal TK, Bangalore - 560100** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.47,09,912/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakh Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **10-01-2024** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 03rd day of April 2024.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.43,80,176/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Eighty Thousand One Hundred and Seventy Six only)** and interest thereon from **03-04-2024** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A
Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr. S. Umesh, S/o. Mr. Suryanarayana)

All that piece and parcel of the Site No.20, Assessment 4, Situated at Dasarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Dasarahalli CMC Limits Ward No.11, presently coming under BBMP, Bangalore, measuring:- East to West 25 Feet, North to South 35 Feet in all measuring 875 Sq.Ft. together with building and bounded on:- East by - Site No.19, West by - Others' Property, North by - Road, South by - Siddaramaiah's Property.

Place : Bengaluru, Date : 03-04-2024 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.**, having its **Administrative Office** at **No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **Door No.252, Sureka Complex, 100 Feet Road (Near Jalahalli Cross), Peenya, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Rural - 560057-Bengaluru-Peenya Branch,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **19-12-2023** followed by Paper Publication Dated **25-01-2024** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mrs. M.S. Vijaya (Also Legal Heir of Late T. Chandrashekar), W/o. Late T. Chandrashekar, No.827, 17th Main, 14th Cross, MET Layout, Bagalagunte, Bangalore-560073. No.2) Mr. C. Praveen Kumar (Also Legal Heir of Late T. Chandrashekar), S/o. Late T. Chandrashekar, No.827, 17th Main, 14th Cross, MET Layout, Bagalagunte, Bangalore - 560073. No.3) Mr. C. Karthik (Also Legal Heir of Late T.Chandrashekar), S/o. Late T. Chandrashekar, No.827, 17th Main, 14th Cross, MET Layout, Bagalagunte, Bangalore - 560073. No.4) Ms. Deepa (Legal Heir of Late T. Chandrashekar), D/o. Late T. Chandrashekar, No.827, 17th Main, 14th Cross, MET Layout, Bagalagunte, Bangalore - 560073** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.12,65,481/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty One only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **16-12-2023** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 03rd day of April 2024.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.13,11,978/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Eleven Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Eight only)** and interest thereon from **25-03-2024** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A
Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Late Chandrashekar (Now represented by Mrs. M.S. Vijaya, Mr. C. Praveen Kumar, Mr. C. Karthik & Ms. Deepa as his Legal Heirs)

Land and RCC Residential Building situated at Door No., Site No.827 formed by the Mysore Electrical Industries, Employees Housing Co-Operative Society Limited, Measuring : East to West : 30 Feet and North to South 39 + 45/2 Feet, in all 1,260 Sq.ft. Location : Situated at Bagalagunte Village, Yashwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. Boundaries : East by : R.F.D. Land, West by : Site No.828, North by : Road, South by : SWD.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 03-04-2024 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA

GATI SHAKTI VISHWAVIDYALAYA
(A Central University under the Ministry of Railways, Government of India)
Lalbaug, Vadodara, Gujarat 390004

गति शक्ति विश्वविद्यालय
(रेल मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के आधीन केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय)
लालबाग, वडोदरा, गुजरात 390004

ADMISSION NOTICE : AY 2024-25

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV), Vadodara is a Central University established by an Act of Parliament [Central Universities (Amendment) Act 2022]. The University is sponsored by the Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India. Being a University of first of–its–kind, GSV focuses on transport and logistics related education, multidisciplinary research and executive training.

GSV invites applications for admission to the following academic programs across Technology and Management disciplines for the **AY 2024-25:**

Discipline	Level	Program	Duration	No. of Seat	Entrance Test
Technology	Under-graduate (Regular Programs)	• **B.Tech.** in Civil Engineering (Specialization : Rail Engineering)	4 Year	60	**JEE (Main)** 2024 Admission through JOSAA Visit JOSAA website *https://josaa.nic.in/* for details.
		• **B.Tech.** in Electronics and Communication Engineering (Specialization :Rail Engineering)	4 Year	60	
		• **B.Tech.** in Mechanical Engineering (Specialization: Rail Engineering)	4 Year	60	
		• **B.Tech.** in Electrical Engineering (Specialization : Rail Engineering)	4 Year	60	
		• **B.Tech.** in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science (Specialization: Transportation and Logistics)	4 Year	60	
		• **B.Tech** in Aviation Engineering	4 Year	30	
Management	Post-graduate (Regular Programs)	• **MBA** (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)	2 Year	30	**CUET-PG/ CAT/ MAT/ XAT**
		• **MBA** (Ports and Shipping Logistics)	2 Year	30	
Executive Programs - Exclusively for Working Professionals					
Technology	Post-graduate (Executive Programs)	• **M.Tech** (Intelligent Transport System)	3 Year	20	**GSV Entrance Test**
		• **M.Tech** (Railway Engineering)	3 Year	20	
Management	Post-graduate (Executive Programs)	• **MBA** (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)	2 Year	30	**GSV Entrance Test**
		• **MBA** (Multi-modal Transportation)	2 Year	30	
		• **MBA** (Metro Rail Management)	2 Year	30	
Technology/ Management	Doctoral (Sponsored)	• **Ph.D (Engineering)**	-	-	**GSV Entrance Test/ JRF/SRF/GATE**
		• **Ph. D (Management)**			

❖ *Apply Online at-* ***https://gsvadm.samarth.edu.in/2024***
❖ *Visit GSV website* ***(https://gsv.ac.in)*** *for detailed information about the programs.*

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The only University in India exclusively focused on transport and logistics education.
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- Innovation Led & Industry Driven University with strong emphasis on industry connect.
- Collaborations with top Higher Education Institutes and Industry.
- Highly experiential and unique inter-disciplinary pedagogical approach incorporating latest technologies.
- High quality and experienced faculty with global exposure.
- Focus on 21st century skills: communication, critical thinking and innovation.
- Project-based teaching-learning, and well-structured Internships at Indian Railway Establishments and other organizations.
- State of the art Railways facilities and Lab infrastructure.
- Excellent Hostel facilities for the UG students and female PG students -for regular students only.
- GSV Financial Aid upto 100% of tuition and 50% of hostel fee - only for the eligible regular students.

All differences between me and outgoing Parliament member Dr GM Siddeshwara have been sorted out and I will actively get involved in the Lok Sabha poll campaigning for BJP candidate Gayathri Siddeshwara

MP Renukacharya, former minister

Top brass enters picture as BSY, BYV fail to contain rebels

Madhuswamy in Tumakuru, Preetham Gowda in Hassan warned

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@Bengaluru

EVEN as the BJP national leadership is trying to patch up differences between former chief minister BS Yediyurappa and his rivals in certain Lok Sabha constituencies, the confusion prevails.

In Shivamogga, the standoff continues between the factions aligned to Yediyurappa and KS Eshwarappa, a former BJP minister, contesting as an independent against Yediyurappa's son and sitting MP BY Raghavendra. Eshwarappa claims that the party high command has given him a 'silent assent' to contest.

In Hassan, BJP state incharge Radhamohandas Agarwal reached out to former MLA Preetham J Gowda, who is BJP state general secretary and a loyalist of party state president BY Vijayendra. Preetham had turned hostile against sitting MP Prajwal Revanna, the BJP-JDS alliance candidate from the Hassan constituency. Preetham has since been shifted as in charge of Mysuru-Kodagu and Chamarajanagar Lok Sabha constituencies to control the damage. Agarwal said Preetham will campaign for Prajwal in select places, if needed.

In an effort to cash in on the differences within BJP, Deputy Chief Minister and Congress state president DK Shivakumar, during his visit to Hassan recently, asked Preetham to be careful while backing Prajwal in the bastion of the Vokkaliga community, to which both Preetham and Shivakumar belong.

In Tumakuru, Agarwal on Saturday met former minister and Yediyurappa loyalist JC Madhuswamy, who was an aspirant for the ticket and is now upset with the party picking S Somanna. Agarwal passed on the message from Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Madhuswamy that Somanna is his candidate.

Madhuswamy, who did not meet Somanna, received Congress candidate SP Muddahanume Gowda on Sunday. "We are long-time friends and he sought my support. But how can I commit to it, being in a different party," Madhuswamy asked. He has been shifted as in charge of the Udupi-Chikkamagaluru Lok Sabha constituency. In fact, the high command had asked Somanna not to contest, but he has taken the risk. Muddahanume Gowda, who was with BJP till recently, switched back to Congress after he got a clue that Somanna would be the BJP candidate.

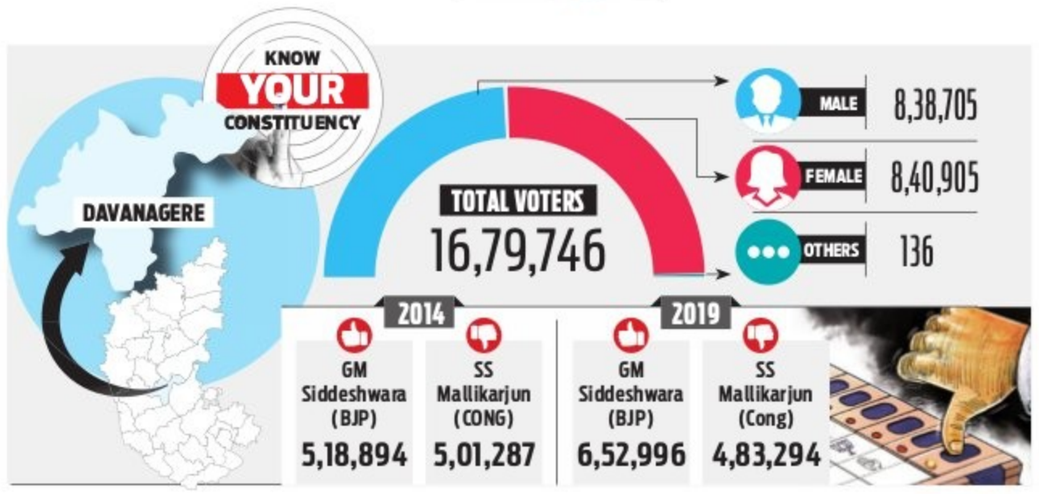
BJP sources said the high command has intervened as Yediyurappa and Vijayendra have not been able to contain dissidence, including by their own loyalists.

Yediyurappa could not convince MLAs ST Somashekar of the Yeshwanthpur segment in Bengaluru and Shivaram Hebbar of Yellapur in Uttara Kannada district, to stay back in BJP. The two legislators have been in touch with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar to campaign for the Congress candidates.

In the meantime, BJP MLC Tejaswini Gowda resigned from her post to join Congress, while Shivakumar met another MLC KP Nanjundi on Sunday. Both were Yediyurappa loyalists. Even during the last Assembly polls, Yediyurappa could not stop the migration of a large section of BJP leaders to Congress. For the Lok Sabha elections too, there are murmurs within the party that Yediyurappa is focussing more on his choice of BJP candidates.

Before the Assembly elections, senior BJP leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal and Kodagu-Mysuru MP Pratap Simha had raised the issue of 'adjustment politics', apparently targeting Yediyurappa, that cost the party dear. "The party high command managed to check the damage to an extent then. But if such allegations are true, Congress and BJP could win 14 seats each, out of the total 28 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state. This could end the BJP's alliance with JDS," a leader observed.

If Congress scores in double digits in the Lok Sabha elections, both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar will retain their positions, and Congress will remain in power. BJP will have to wait till the next Assembly elections to grab power, he added.



Dr Prabha Mallikarjun

Gayathri Siddeshwara

IN D'GERE, IT IS NEW CANDIDATES FROM OLD POLITICAL FAMILIES

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@Davanagere

AFTER much deliberation and confusion, the Congress and the BJP have fielded new faces from old political families in the Davanagere constituency for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

While the Congress has fielded Dr Prabha Mallikarjun, wife of Minister SS Mallikarjun, the BJP has fielded Gayathri Siddeshwara, wife of incumbent MP Dr GM Siddeshwara. Davanagere will go to the polls on May 7. Campaigning has reached its peak in Davanagere, with both candidates traveling across the constituency in Central Karnataka.

Called the industrial hub and Manchester of Karnataka in the past, Davanagere is seeing rampant migration of people to other cities in search of jobs as most of the industries in the district, including Anjaneya Cotton Mill, have shut shop. Davanagere, however, is still a major centre of education.

Voters want airport, jobs

Voters in the constituency want their MP to get an airport sanctioned for the district, expand the software park, create special economic zones, improve health facilities, and create employment opportunities so that Davanagere regains its lost title of industrial hub.

In the 12 Lok Sabha elections in the past in Davanagere, the BJP and the Congress have emerged victorious six times each. The BJP has been winning the constituency since 1999.

The constituency is home to an equal number of Veerashiva-Lingayats and Kurubas, followed by Valmiki Nayakas, Muslims, Dalits, Upparas, Devangas, and other communities.

Davanagere constituency comprises Davanagere North, Davanagere South, Mayakonda, Channagiri, Jagalur, Harihar, Harapanahalli, and Honnali Assembly segments. Apart from Harihar, the remaining segments were all won by the Congress in the 2023 Assembly elections. This has given a boost to the confidence of Congress candidate Dr Prabha. The BJP candidate, Gayathri, is banking on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's charisma to win the polls, apart from the development works implemented by her husband and sitting BJP MP, Siddeshwara.

In 2014, Siddeshwara won by a thin margin of 17,602 votes against Congress candidate and present Minister SS Mallikarjun. Again in 2019, Siddeshwara won by a margin of 1,69,702 votes against Congress' HB Manjappa.

Rebel trouble

Both the Congress and the BJP are facing rebel trouble in the constituency.

In the Congress camp, educationist and strong supporter of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, GB Vinay Kumar, was a strong contender for the party ticket. However, the intervention of Siddaramaiah, Kaginele Kanaka Gurupeet seer Niranjanandapuri Swamiji, and SS Mallikarjun doused the rebel fire. Vinay Kumar, however, in a video said that he would meet his supporters soon and take a call on his political future.

In the BJP camp, there was strong opposition to the party fielding incumbent MP Siddeshwara or anyone from his family. However, the party fielded his wife, Gayathri. This resulted in a rebellion led by former ministers SA Ravindranath and MP Renukacharya. However, BJP strongman and former CM, BS Yediyurappa, quelled the rebellion.

Amidst these developments, the statement made by senior Congressman and former minister Dr Shamanur Shivashankarappa against the candidacy of Gayathri triggered a controversy.

He had allegedly said that "she (Gayathri) is fit to only cook". This issue has, however, lost steam on the ground, and development is the only issue being discussed at length by the voters. Now that the rebellion has been quelled in both national parties, all eyes are on the voting day.

Whether the Congress will wrest the seat from the BJP or the saffron party continue its winning streak in Davanagere will be know only on June 4, when the votes are counted.

Yatnal shoots off again, DGR's wife complains to poll body

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TAKING objection to former Union minister Basanagouda Patil Yatnal on Saturday saying "Dinesh Gundu Rao's house is half Pakistani", Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao's wife Tabassum Rao, a Muslim, lodged a complaint with the Election Commission against his "slanderous and communally divisive utterances".

"Yatnal's comment that Dinesh Gundu Rao's house is half Pakistani is downright cheap, derogatory and defamatory. I may be born a Muslim, but nobody can question my Indianness. Will Election Commission, Prime Minister's Office and party president JP Nadda take action against this habitual offender," she tweeted.

Reacting to the comment, Dinesh Gundu Rao told TNIE, "Politicians are in public life, they should not get into other's personal issues. This is a slanderous statement targeted to divide. It only demonstrates his cheap and petty mentality. Many in the BJP are also like that. We will explore legal options."

On Saturday, referring to the Rameshwaram Cafe blast, Yatnal had said Pakistan is in Dinesh Gundu Rao's house, referring to Tabassum's religious identity. Tabu Rao said, "Yatnal has unnecessarily dragged my name in whatever he needed to tell my husband. We need to maintain ethical standards out of mutual respect and decency... they bring in a person's religion which is their private matter. Dinesh's supporters were displeased and pained about what happened. We are a civilized nation with thousands of years of history, and everyone needs to speak like civilised persons, not rogues. I demand an apology from this man. I would like to file a defamation case against him."

Ballari BJP candidate B Sriramulu interacts with voters while campaigning on Sunday | EXPRESS

Sriramulu plays 'sympathy' card, Cong says he's accepted defeat

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

WILL the recent statement made by Ballari BJP candidate B Sriramulu, recalling his 2023 Assembly election defeat, work in his favour in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections? This is the question in the minds of BJP workers in the mining district of Ballari. While campaigning, Sriramulu said that if he loses the Lok Sabha elections, he will have to sit idle for the next five years, as he even lost last year's Assembly polls. He urged voters to ensure his victory from Ballari that will go to polls on May 7. Criticising Sriramulu, Congress candidate E Tukaram said that the BJP leader has already accepted defeat. "When you look into the history of Indian politics, sympathy is a major trump card, and it helps candidates in Lok Sabha elections too. However, we have to wait for the results on June 4," he said. Sriramulu hit back at Tukaram saying, "Conveying my feelings to my supporters is my right. During the campaign, I just shared what had happened in the previous Assembly polls. I just stated the facts. If the Congress MLA loses the LS polls, he will continue as an MLA. Apart from this, I also recalled the development work implemented by me during my tenure as minister. I also highlighted the work taken up by the Union Government and PM Modi for the welfare of the constituency." Sports and Youth Empowerment Minister B Nagendra, who is also district minister for Ballari, said Sriramulu has already conceded defeat by saying he doesn't want to sit at home. "Sympathy never works. Only development works matter to the voters. E Tukaram is known for his simplicity and his development works," he said. **ENS**

Cong plans to corner BJP N-K'taka with AHINDA-Lingayat combo

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

THE Congress has chalked out plans to pitch the combo of Lingayat and AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes and Dalits) as a potent force against the BJP in 14 seats in North Karnataka that will go to polls in the second phase on May 7.

This is crucial for the party as it has to gain more seats in North Karnataka as JDS has no strong presence there to help its partner BJP. In some areas of Vijayapura, Kalaburagi and Bidar, JDS candidates had put up a strong fight in the last assembly polls. Congress leaders met on Friday and chalked out a strategy for the 14 LS seats in the region.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DCM D K Shivakumar gave instructions to the local leaders to ensure the victory of party candidates and get rewarded after the LS polls, said Hubballi-Dharwad District Congress Committee (DCC) president Anil Kumar Patil.

The campaign has already picked up pace in Haveri-Gadag seat with Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil aggressively campaigning for Congress candidate Ananda Gaddadeveramutt, a 'Jangam Lingayat', against BJP leader Basavaraj Bommai, a 'Sada Lingayat'. It is a seat which former RDPR minister K S Eshwarappa wanted from the BJP for his son Kanthesh.

"Once Chief Minister Siddaramaiah hits the campaign trail, it will help the consolidation of AHINDA votes in favour of Congress and the fight will be neck-to-neck," said a Congress leader.

After the first phase of polls in South Karnataka gets over on April 26, Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar will get ten days to focus on the remaining 14 seats. The electoral population of Kurubas, Siddaramaiah's community, is considerable in Central and North Karnataka.

The Congress has given tickets to two of community members -- Vindo Asooti from Hubballi-Dharwad and K Rajashekar Hitnal from Koppal. The party has promised district Lingayat leaders, who get the candidates elected, the MLC post that was vacated by BJP leader Jagadish Shettar, a source said.

POLL WALK

BJP candidate from Bengaluru Central Lok Sabha constituency and sitting MP P C Mohan campaigns at Thigalarpet on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Gender gap: Only 25 women file nominations

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

The Bill to provide 33 per cent reservation for women in the Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha has been passed in both Houses of Parliament, and is likely to be implemented across the country in time for the 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

However, as the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka unveils statistics of the second phase of elections on April 26, a stark disparity in candidate nominations raises concerns about the ground-level implementation of this progressive legislation.

Out of a total of 338 candidates who have filed nominations (from March 28 to April 4) for 14 constituencies, only 25 are women, representing less than 8% of the nomination pool. This discrepancy between the envisioned goal of enhanced women's participation and current reality highlights systemic challenges in fostering equal opportunities for women in electoral politics.

While the Women's Reservation Bill seeks to empower women in decision-making roles, the under representation of female candidates underscores the need for concerted efforts from both government and civil society organisations.

Swathi, an activist, emphasizes that investing in women's leadership translates into a stronger and more vibrant nation. "Women's grievances can only be addressed when they are actively involved in politics," Swathi asserts. She calls for comprehensive measures such as awareness campaigns, training programmes, equitable resource distribution and policy implementation to bridge the gender gap in political representation.

Despite female voters constituting a substantial portion of the electorate in these constituencies, the lack of women candidates remains a significant concern.

Fest of memes: Parties look at influencers to create false narratives

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

IN the run-up to the general election, political parties are expanding their outreach strategies to target younger demographics though social media platforms like Instagram and X.

Alongside conventional methods like advertisements and publicity materials, there's a growing trend among parties to harness the reach of memes, troll pages and social media influencers to shape public opinion and secure votes.

Dubbed 'new strategy' and an extended form of their 'IT cells', the creation of false narratives on social media can sway voters significantly, especially when troll pages and influencers with large followings are allegedly being paid substantial amounts without adequate oversight.

However, this approach has sparked controversy, as well as calls for stricter monitoring by election authorities, since the lack of monitoring raises concerns about the potential impact of misleading information on voter decision-making.

As demands for increased scrutiny grow within political circles, the debate over regulating social media's influence on elections has also intensified.

Mohammed Zaibulla Khan, attorney, Deshak Law Reigns, said, "In a bid to pocket the votes of youth and 'Gen-Z' voters coming into the foray this time, political parties are leaving no stone unturned in turning this 'festival of democracy' into a 'festival of memes' in a bid to reach the youth voters of the country, who come in staggeringly game changing percentages. It is high time for some amendments in the form of insertion of new provisos in the Representation of People's Act which would impose strict restrictions in the event of hiring of "influencers" and using meme pages to push political agendas, non-compliance of which must result in grave repercussions."

However, he said taking into consideration the democratical aspects, there can be no restrictions on meme page admins posting or pushing political material in their individual capacity on their personal profiles, but not subtly in exchange for consideration on the platform they built to attract traffic for 'fun' and 'entertainment' purposes, as is typically spelt out very particularly on their meme-page profiles.

Meanwhile, an admin of a meme page, who did not wish to reveal his identity, said a few of his peers are looking for prospective politicians who can fund them for such posts, which they claim is not at all unethical.

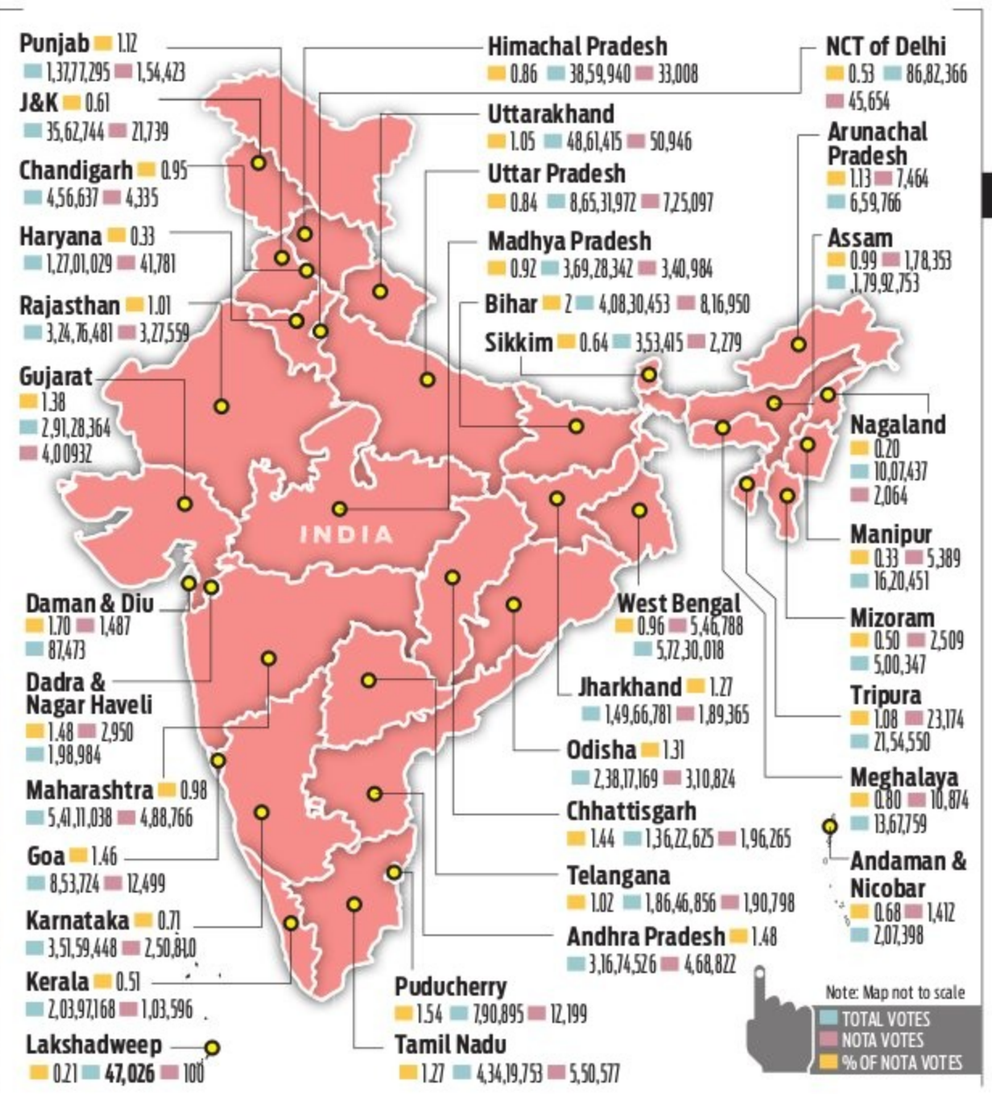
"Creation, ideology and selling creative posts for money are three different aspects and should not be mixed up. While content creation is merely for entertainment purpose, selling them to viewers after taking money, especially as it can impact youngsters, is not acceptable. But there are many social media influencers who have already started posting such contents on social media platforms and are urging others as well to accept such offers by political parties," he said.

GENESIS OF NOTA

While the political class was largely opposed to the idea of an option to reject all the candidates during elections, a writ petition was filed . by NGO People's Union of Civil Liberties in the Supreme Court. The top court, in its September 27, 2013 order, directed that there should be a 'None of the Above' (NOTA) option on ballot papers and electronic voting machines. The Election Commission subsequently made a provision for NOTA, so that voters who came to the polling stations and decided not to vote for any candidates, were able to exercise their right not to vote for such candidates, while maintaining the secrecy of their ballot. The NOTA option was first made available during the assembly elections of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, NCT of Delhi and Rajasthan in 2013, and continued thereafter in all state and Lok Sabha polls

A total of 65,22,772 voters, or 1.06%, chose to reject all the candidates in fray in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Of these, 22,272 votes were polled through postal ballots. While Bihar recorded the highest percentage of NOTA at 2%, the lowest per cent of people opting to press the rejection button was in Nagaland, at 0.20%. This newspaper takes a look:

NONE OF THE ABOVE



WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

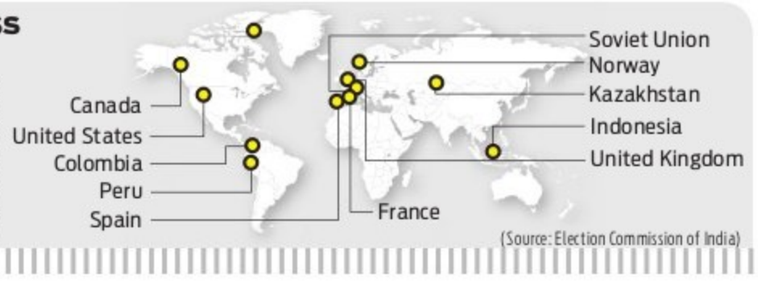
- NOTA votes are generally not considered while calculating the total valid votes polled by a contesting candidate. A candidate loses his election deposit if he or she fails to poll one-sixth of ballots cast in his or her constituency.
- Even if the number of voters opting for NOTA option is more than the number of votes polled by any of the candidates, the candidate who secures the largest number of votes has to be declared elected.

THE SYMBOL

The Election Commission announced the symbol for NOTA option in 2015. The design, with a crossed out ballot paper, was created by the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. However, the EC also chooses to spell out the word on EVMs at times.

NOTA ACROSS THE GLOBE

Several other nations around the world have made provision for voters to reject all candidates during an election



(Source: Election Commission of India)

BIHAR

Kharge under influence of 'tukde tukde' gang, says Modi in Nawada

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday attacked Congress for its pro-Muslim approach and said the party's manifesto had the imprint of the Muslim League even as he criticised party chief Mallikarjune Kharge's objection to mentioning the abrogation of Article 370 during a poll campaign in Rajasthan.

Addressing an election rally in Bihar's Nawada, the second after his rally in Jamui, Modi hit out at Kharge for asking what link Rajasthan had to Jammu and Kashmir by contending that he felt ashamed over the latter's remark.

Without mentioning Kharge, Modi said the Congress president's remark was made under the influence of 'tukde tukde gang', and asked whether J&K was not an integral part of the country.

"The Congress president asked why I referred to the abolition of Article 370. I felt ashamed. Congress should listen and understand, several youths of Bihar and Rajasthan have made supreme sacrifices for safeguarding Kashmir," the Prime Minister remarked.

"INDI alliance's leaders swear by the Constitution of Baba Ambedkar, but it did not allow Ambedkar's Constitution to come into force in Jammu and Kashmir all these years. It was Modi who paved the way for the Constitution to come into force in J&K by keeping his promise of abolishing Article 370," the PM said.

Calling the grand old party 'anti-sanatan dharma', he also took a jibe at Lalu Prasad's RJD by reminding people of the 'jungle raj' in Bihar.

The PM alleged that Congress' election manifesto smacked of the 'politics of appeasement.' He questioned the grand old party's move of not attending the consecration ceremony of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. "I wonder why the INDIA bloc is so hostile to popular sentiments. They did not turn up for the pran pratishtha, even though the temple was constructed through public donations and not with government money," he said, adding, "Ram Navami is approaching. Don't forget their sins."

INDI alliance's leaders swear by the Constitution of Baba Ambedkar, but it did not allow the Constitution to come into force in Jammu and Kashmir all these years

Narendra Modi, PM

'Flaws' in manifesto

The PM alleged that Congress' manifesto smacked of the 'politics of appeasement'. He asked why the party did not attend the Ram temple consecration. "I wonder why the INDIA bloc is so hostile to popular sentiments. They did not attend the pran pratishtha, even though the temple was built with public donations," the PM said.

POLL PROMISE

INDIA will repeal CAA if voted to power: Cong

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

AS the Congress faces flak from some of the constituents of the opposition alliance over its silence on scrapping the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), senior Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi on Sunday asserted that the INDIA bloc will repeal the contentious legislation if it comes to power in 2024.

Curiously, the Congress, one of the fierce opponents of the Citizenship law implemented by the Modi government ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, did not make any mention of scrapping CAA in its manifesto, which was unveiled on Friday.

The manifesto was heavily focused on social justice, youth, women, farmers, the Constitution, the economy, federalism, and national security.

Speaking to this newspaper, Lok Sabha MP from Assam and the party's deputy leader in Lok Sabha, Gogoi said the Congress is committed to repealing the CAA as promised by Rahul Gandhi in 2019. "We said that the CAA will be repealed in the first Cabinet meeting of the new INDIA alliance government and we are committed to fulfilling our promise," he said.

This comes amid criticism from its INDIA bloc partner Communist Party of India (Marxist), which attacked the "silence" of the Congress on the CAA in its manifesto for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

We said that the CAA will be repealed in the first Cabinet meeting of the new INDIA alliance government and we remain committed to fulfilling our promise

Gaurav Gogoi, Congress leader

Targeting the Congress, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Saturday said that the manifesto of the CPM had vowed to scrap "draconian laws" such as the CAA, Prevention of Money Laundering Act and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, among others. In its manifesto released on Saturday, the Communist Party of India (CPI) also promised to scrap the legislation if the opposition comes to power.

Responding to the criticism, Gogoi said that in 2019, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi promised to repeal the CAA and the party will stick to its stand. "In 2019, Rahul Gandhi has said that we will repeal CAA. Our position remains the same and we are committed to that. People are being threatened with arrest by the BJP government if they protest against the CAA. College students have been forced to remain inside the campus with police standing guard outside. In a democratic country, everyone has the right to protest democratically. But Assam is no longer a democratic state, it is turning into a police state," said Gogoi.

After the Centre notified the CAA rules recently, Congress leader Shashi Tharoor has criticised the Act as morally and constitutionally wrong, saying that introducing religion as a criterion for citizenship contradicts constitutional principles.

Recently, Congress leader Pawan Khera also promised that the CAA will be repealed if the party comes to power.

Under the CAA, citizenship will be given to persecuted Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis and Christians who have migrated to India from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan by December 31, 2014.

STAR POWER

TMC general secretary Abhishek Banerjee holds a roadshow at Ghatal in support of actor-politician Dev on Sunday | JAYANTA SHAW

ELECTION2024

Day after Sonia meet, exodus in Raj Cong

A day after the public meeting of Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, several party leaders — including former MLA Gangajal Meel, PCC vice-president Sushil Sharma, Hanuman Meel who contested on Congress ticket from Suratgarh and former PCC vice-president Ashok Awasthi — joined BJP on Sunday.

Ex Odisha minister quits Cong, joins BJD

Former Odisha minister Ganeswar Behera, who had recently quit Congress, joined BJD on Sunday. The BJD is likely to field Behera, a Dalit leader, from the Kendrapara assembly segment reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates.

SP's Gorakhpur candidate hospitalised

Samajwadi Party candidate from Gorakhpur seat, Kajal Nishad, was rushed to a private hospital in Lucknow after her health deteriorated on Sunday. "She was experiencing some issues with blood pressure and heart," said her husband Sanjay Nishad. Kajal (41), a popular TV actor, is pitted against actor and sitting BJP MP Ravi Kishan Shukla in the seat.

QUOTE CORNER

If one looks at it closely, this (the slogan 400 paar) reflects the BJP's frustration and fear of defeat. Have you heard the Indian cricket team saying before they go to play a match, 400 paar?

Kanhaiya Kumar, Congress leader

We don't know what is the basis of the report (that said India killed 20 terrorists inside Pakistan) but this is the new India, which knows how to provide security to its people and protect its borders

Yogi Adityanath, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

The arrogance of money power has gone into BJP's head. All its efforts to destabilise HP government with money power will not succeed. People will give a befitting reply to the rebels in bypolls

Anirudh Singh, Himachal Pradesh minister

A message from *Bebo*: Cast your votes, join poll process

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

A transgender has been creating awareness for voting, both inside and outside her community, through a short film made in association with a local filmmaker.

The film *Bebo*, released recently, is named after the transgender, Bebo, who is playing the lead role in it. Bebo, along with four other artistes, could be seen in the film appealing to people to cast their votes, driving home the importance of each vote for the development of the country.

The funds required for making the film were arranged by Bebo and filmmaker Hemant Mukhi. "We wanted to do something on the topic — to inspire not only the transgenders, but also others to cast their votes. The film also stresses on ethical voting," said Bebo. The film, uploaded on YouTube, has been getting good response.

In a landmark decision in 2014, the Supreme Court recognised the rights of transgender citizens to be identified as a third gender or "other" with the Election Commission.

This is not the first time that Bebo has been doing this. During the last few elections, she had been creating awareness for voting through dance and music. "During 2019 Lok Sabha polls, I and my team did a lot of work by creating awareness among the people to exercise their franchise," said Bebo. Asked about the objective of this work, Bebo said, "Being a part of society, everyone has a responsibility to do something. Since we are largely involved in singing and dancing, we are contributing to the society the best way we can."

According to the filmmaker, Mukhi, Bebo did the lead role while scripting and direction was done by him.

"The film has been made to create awareness among the people on voting. In this short film named *Bebo*, we have also focused on ethical voting, telling the people to cast their votes honestly without any greed," said Mukhi.

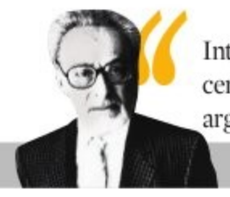
"Besides, Bebo is in the lead role. Help of other artistes, Rupesh Kumar and Neeraj Rajput, was taken to play the role of transgenders," he added.

As per the data given by the chief electoral officer in Jharkhand, registered transgender voters have increased to 407 in 2024 from 307 in 2019, which was only 29 in 2016.

For a cause

This is not the first time that Bebo, the transgender who played the lead role in the short film, has done this. During the last few elections, she had been creating awareness for voting through dance and music. "During 2019 Lok Sabha polls, I and my team did a lot of work by creating awareness among the people to exercise their franchise," said Bebo. Asked about the objective of this work, Bebo said, "Being a part of society, everyone has a responsibility to do something. Through song and dance, we are contributing to the society the best way we can."

EDITORIAL



Intolerance is inclined to censor, and censorship promotes ignorance of the arguments of others and thus intolerance itself

Primo Levi

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

POLL ROASTING WELCOME BUT RESPECT MODEL CODE RED LINE

IN a rather pungent speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he saw in the Congress manifesto the imprint of the pre-independence Muslim League, whose communal and separatist agenda vivisected the country. It was a sweeping statement against the party's Lok Sabha poll promises that trashed everything the Modi government stood for. Modi charged that every page of the document reeked of breaking India into pieces – without invoking the tukde-tukde gang pejorative the BJP used in the past to polarise the polity against its political opponents. He went on to rail against the Leftist imports lubricating the principal opposition party's thought engine, saying such a Congress cannot take the country forward in the 21st century. But his left hook drew a fierce counterpunch from Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh, who pointed to the participation of Jan Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee in a coalition government with the Muslim League in Bengal in the early 1940s. Modi's castigation came days after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi took a conscious decision to avoid party flags at his massive roadshow in Wayanad in Kerala along with allies, including the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), learning from his 2019 experience so as to deny the BJP the opportunity to give it a communal spin this time around. A similar roadshow when Rahul debuted from the constituency five years ago saw him amongst a sea of IUML flags, which gave the BJP a handle to hurt the Congress prospects in the North.

As for the Congress manifesto, apart from the expected promises of caste census and legal guarantee to the MSP regime and some doles, its central theme was to address the scourge of unemployment. Its basket included filling 30 lakh Central government vacancies, transitioning to a producer economy to create jobs, abolishing the Agniveer scheme and restoring the regular route for placement in the armed forces, revitalising mining, and incentivising corporates for additional hiring. But the big challenge for the Congress is some saline transfusion in the opposition's INDIA bloc to protect them from the election heat stroke and do better at the hustings.

The festival of democracy has just begun with the usual dose of hyperbole. Trading barbs is what makes campaigns really colourful but the discourse ought to be civil and stay within the red line of the model code of conduct. Any transgression must be dealt with evenly by the poll panel with an iron hand.

HELP FISHERMEN HIT BY SWELL WAVES OFF KERALA

EVER since cyclone Ockhi hit the Kerala and Tamil Nadu coastlines in 2017, life has not been the same for the fisherfolk of these states. The sea has gotten warmer, its level has risen, fishing resources have depleted, and some coastal areas have been eaten up by the waters. Adding to the fishermen's woes is the recent occurrence of swell waves—a phenomenon where the sea surges into the land and inundates vast areas without the help of wind. Such waves have displaced several thousand households in Kerala and injured many in Alappuzha, Kollam and Thiruvananthapuram districts. Many of the displaced families are still living in relief camps as the sea is yet to settle down.

The fishermen allege they did not get timely warnings against going into the sea during these abnormal conditions. However, the authorities concerned —the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services and the State Disaster Management Authority—insist they issued a high-wave alert hours before the most recent event. According to officials, sea surge is not a dangerous phenomenon as such and that the water usually recedes fast. They blame the current inundation on the blockage or diversion of the area's water channels due to the actions of the people.

Even as the blame game continues, the reality is that the catch along the Kerala coast has come down drastically. Thanks to the monsoon and the large number of rivers flowing into the sea, the Kerala coast had traditionally been one of the most productive fishing areas in the country. Not anymore. The fish haul in 2023 was one of the lowest in four decades. The number of fishing days has also come down drastically because of erratic monsoon patterns. So, fishermen risk their lives despite the alerts and wade into the ocean to try their luck. The fishermen allege that the government thinks its job is done with issuing the alert. But until there is a proper livelihood support, the fishermen will keep risking their lives. These littoral communities are among the most vulnerable victims of climate change. They are the outliers of society and need a helping hand if they are to survive. The authorities must come up with a proper livelihood and rehabilitation plan for the community.

QUICK TAKE

MADE ONLY IN INDIA

TANPURAS and sitars made in Maharashtra's Miraj town recently became the latest Indian product to earn the World Trade Organization's geographical indication or GI tag. Thanks to itinerant efforts by governments, trade associations and spirited activists, 360-odd products from around India have earned the coveted tag. It's an astonishing range from Tamil Nadu's Swamimalai bronze icons and Arani silk, Karnataka's Mysuru sandalwood oil and Navalgund durries, to Kerala's Pokkali rice and Wayanad robusta coffee. It would be in the spirit of both the Made in India and Incredible India campaigns to promote their interstate and international trade on a Unique India platform.

The notable achievement of Modi's critics lies in trying to hold the ruling regime to a semblance of accountability in an increasingly centralised power structure

PERSISTENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DETRACTORS

MAKARAND PARANJAPE
Professor of English, Jawaharlal Nehru University

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOURAV ROY

THEY may not even consider themselves critics of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government. Only media professionals doing their duty. Or upholders of democratic values in India. Yet, certainly their detractors, even their admirers, see them primarily as Modi's critics.

But criticism is important, even crucial, to global modernity, the prerequisite for improvement. So, now that Modi 3.0 is almost a certainty, might we look back to see how his critics have fared? What are their prospects in the next five years? To cut to the chase, my main argument is that, contrary to popular belief, most of them have actually done quite well. What this tells us about Modi sarkar or the nature of criticism in India, I hope to delve into later.

But, it might be best to begin with a caveat. I would have liked to call this column "All the Prime Minister's Men". Yet, that would have been so obviously misleading. For one, it would have harked back, at least for those in the know, to Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein's investigative exposé *All the President's Men*. Published 50 years ago, the book recounted the unravelling of Richard Nixon's presidency following the Watergate scandal.

While the Modi sarkar has been repeatedly accused of misusing the state machinery, especially the Enforcement Directorate, against its political rivals, there is no evidence let alone the likelihood of such excesses reaching anywhere close to the criminal actions of former US president Nixon. No. By "All the Prime Minister's Men", I mean something quite different. But such a title is also inappropriate for another reason. Women as much as men make up the list of personages and personalities I wish to talk about.

Indeed, this column is not about the henchmen or acolytes of the PM at all. In fact, quite the opposite. It is about critics of Modi and this two—and soon expected to extend to the third—term BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) regime. They include, more generally speaking, critics of the RSS, Hindutva, and all that has come to be associated with India's rightwing politics. Who are some of these women and men? And, more importantly, what has happened to them?

By way of an answer, I wish to dispute, even refute, the proposition advanced by many, including these critics of Modi and their supporters, that the regime crushes those who oppose it. It is Modi's Godi Media—that is, media that sits in the lap of power—or the highway. If you oppose him, you will be deprived of your professional position and privileges. You have to comply or face the prospect of extinction. Such is the crushing power of the regime and the dire consequences of defying it.

So runs the argument. But what do the facts on the ground actually show? Quite the contrary. Those who dared to criticise Modi have actually done quite well. Despite, at times, losing their positions or privileges, being sidelined or sacked. Despite facing the ire and heckling of fearsome Modi social media hounds. Despite suffering from marginalisation and neglect.

How and why has this been possible? What, moreover, does it tell us about our polity and society? Are there notable exceptions? What differences and distinctions can be made among those who survived after being, so to speak, in the doghouse?

Because in the complex tapestry of Indian politics, criticism plays a crucial role in shaping public discourse, holding leaders accountable, and safeguarding the principles of democracy. At the centre of this discourse in recent times stands Modi, a towering and, as the global media never tires of reminding us, polarising figure.

It is Modi's tenure as PM that has been met with the most fervent support and vehement opposition in recent times. While Modi's admirers extol his leadership and economic reforms, his critics never cease to oppose almost everything he does or says. Some of the latter have played a significant role in providing counterviews—I would prefer to call it ballast—from which he has made much of his political capital. Criticism, in other words, has only added to Modi's stature in public opinion, policy discussions, and societal awareness.

In the eyes of their admirers, however, Modi critics have played a pivotal role in amplifying the voices of marginalised communities whose interests have often been sidelined. Their notable achievement lies in trying to hold the ruling regime to a semblance of accountability in an increasingly centralised power structure.

Moreover, the impact of Modi's critics as also their support base extends beyond national boundaries, resonating on the global stage and shaping perceptions of India's democratic health. As the world's largest democracy, India's internal affairs have implications beyond its borders. The international community closely monitors developments within the country, particularly concerning human rights, religious freedom and democratic governance.

Modi's critics have therefore been accused of being hand-in-glove with foreign powers, even being on their payroll. They are instrumental in raising 'anti-India issues' and holding the government accountable on the global stage. Whether it is through international media coverage, diplomatic pressure or civil society advocacy, they have ensured our democratic deficits do not escape scrutiny or condemnation.

However, like any heterogeneous group, they are not immune to internal divisions, ideological biases or strategic missteps, and fact-checks that reveal their numerous sins of both omission and commission. Infighting, ideological purity tests and personality-driven politics have at times undermined their collective efficacy as the voice of the opposition.

Despite this, they have steadfastly pursued their mission to highlight governance failures, social injustices and erosion of democratic values under Modi's leadership. Modi's critics often lament over how difficult a terrain they have had to traverse, fraught with challenges, including political pressure, media censorship and even personal safety concerns.

Their demonisation has created a hostile environment where dissent is met with harassment, intimidation and legal reprisals. In such a hostile climate, sustaining a cohesive and effective counter-narrative becomes an uphill task. But they have persisted, and the results are for everyone to see.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

THE VALUE OF SOLITUDE AND CONCENTRATION

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

THE old books, I find, are interestingly full of life lessons, not just those learned from kings and queens. For one, practical life tips are imparted through seemingly simple stories about everyday people in the *Srimad Bhagavatam*. But before we get to the story that I would like to retell, a little about the book itself. The *Bhagavata Purana* or *Srimad Bhagavatam*, said by some to have been composed over two millennia ago by Veda Vyasa, is considered a divine text, for it is the 'biography' of Mahavishnu, including that of Vishnu's eighth avatar, Sri Krishna. As other *puranas* do, it discusses a wide range of topics from cosmology, geography and mythology to music, dance, yoga and culture.

Its poetry is greatly admired and quoted across regions, and in Assam it occupies the place of the *murti* in some temple sanctums. The text consists of 12 *skandha* or books, whose 332 *adhyay* or chapters add up to between 16,000 and 18,000 verses depending on the recension. The tenth book, with about 4,000 verses about the Krishnavatar, is the most popular.

It was the first *purana* to be translated into a European language, from a Tamil version to French in 1788, which introduced Europeans to Indian philosophy. In this story, Sri Krishna's earthly 'ancestor', King Yadu, is told by a young ascetic about how he learned to focus on his goal.

Lavanya, said the ascetic, was a young lady whom he met on his travels. She was the daughter of a small cultivator who lived on the edge of a great forest of sal trees. He grew millet and vegetables and had but one cow, but it gave him, his wife and daughter plenty of good, rich milk. His fields were kind to him as were the weather gods.

As advised by wandering holy men on the right way to live, Lavanya's father divided his income into five shares. One share was for yearly offerings to his ancestors, to repay the debt of having achieved human birth. One share was for charity and helping others in God's name to earn merit. One share was for guests and wayfarers, to be able to feed them properly, for that was a householder's moral duty. One share was for relatives, for as a son, brother, husband, father and uncle, a man had obligatory presents to give at ceremonies and festivals to affirm his relationships. The fifth and largest share was to feed, clothe and shelter himself and his family.

Many holy men went past their house and stopped for a drink of water, a rest and a simple dinner. They repaid them by telling them wonderful stories when the day's work was done, of gods and titans, tricksters and heroes. Lavanya's natural intelligence was further ignited by their tales.

One day, Lavanya's parents left for the weekly market three villages away, with baskets of produce to sell. Lavanya sat down to weave a new cane basket. She had

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

> Many people together will be noisy and may quarrel. They will ruin your enterprise. Even two people are likely to talk, argue and distract each other. Thus, it is important to know when to proceed alone

barely begun when four well-dressed people appeared in a bullock cart. They were her parents' age and announced that they came with a marriage proposal for her.

"My son is a good, clean-hearted boy and we have many fields and cows. You will be well-looked after and lack for nothing," smiled the prospective bridegroom's mother. She wore a gold and coral necklace and gold bangles set with lucky hair from an elephant's tail. Her nose-ring had pearls on it and her upper garment and lower garment were both of fine cotton.

"I'm sorry, my parents are away at the weekly market three villages away, they'll be home only by sunset," blushed Lavanya, feeling shy in this fine company.

"Oh, we'll wait for them," said the group cheerfully and looked about for a place in the shade. Lavanya scurried to drag out the string cots and spread grass mats on them for her guests to sit on. She fetched water for them and a cooling drink of jaggery juice in terracotta cups, and rounded up all the palmetto hand-fans in her little home for the guests to keep cool with.

And then a terrible thought struck her. "The evening meal!" she thought. "We don't have enough husked rice to cook for everyone. I'd better husk more right away before I cut the vegetables."

Excusing herself politely, Lavanya took out a good measure of unhusked paddy from the bin to the yard and started pounding it in the mortar with the wooden pestle. As she worked, the six conch bangles she wore on either wrist began to clank merrily, "Tak-taka-tak-tak! Tak-taka-tak-tak!"

"On, no!" thought Lavanya. "What a noise these bangles make. How uncouth they will think me. And they'll wonder how poor I am that I wear such simple bangles and not golden ones like theirs."

She broke four bangles on either wrist, leaving only two, and resumed husking the paddy. But even those two clanked loudly as she worked, producing a childish, embarrassing sound as though a little boy or girl was running about in the yard playing with a wooden cart or clapper.

"This is no good. They will think I'm a country bumpkin," thought the intelligent maiden. "However, I can't go back completely bare-wristed, that is not considered proper in a girl. I know what! I'll break another two and leave just one on each wrist."

"I happened to visit soon after and heard the whole story," said the ascetic. "I learned from her, O King, the value of solitude and concentration when an important personal task is at hand. Many people together will be noisy and may quarrel. They will ruin your enterprise. Even two people are likely to talk, argue and distract each other. That young maiden's intelligent moves taught me to assess when to proceed alone on a life goal, and why."

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Multiple beliefs

Ref: *Syncretism and 30 million deities* (Apr 7). The article throws light onto the possibilities of gods, deities and beliefs evolving out of respective ecosystems over a period of time. Some stick, while others don't. An enlightened man can himself evolve into god.
Athulya M, Hyderabad

Shady functioning

Ref: *Taming the shadowy world of NGOs* (Apr 7). It is fashionable for all and sundry to criticise the Modi government for cancelling approvals for a number of NGOs. But the fact is the cancellation was due to non-compliance of the mandated laws. These so-called NGOs have not even got their finances audited, which is a fundamental requirement. The underlying principle is no one can be above law.
R Sriramprasad, email

Disowning Emergency

Ref: *Democratic institutions being destroyed: Sonia* (Apr 7). Congress leader Sonia Gandhi had a point when she accused the Modi government of undermining democratic institutions. But it remains to be seen whether the Congress will show the courage to disown the Emergency and its excesses.
C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Refuting charges

Ref: *Undisclosed CPM bank a/c frozen* (Apr 7). The CPM has, as usual, refuted all the charges levelled against them regarding the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank scam. If the party feels it has nothing to hide in this case, it can very well approach the high court with its grievances and appeal for the account to be unfrozen.
V Venkitasubramanian, Coimbatore

Choose wisely

As the election draws nearer, party-switching of leaders is on the rise. Voters are getting confused. Elections are a time for voters to test their representatives. Therefore, the voters, with their judgement, should choose honest public representatives who can help with the people's development while keeping the environment in mind.
Nabnit Panigrahi, Rayagada

Irrational act

The act of a 50-year-old man from Karwar sacrificing his index finger to Goddess Kali for the BJP's victory in the Lok Sabha elections is appalling. This incident shocked locals and BJP leaders, who have appealed to the people not to indulge in such acts. In a nation where politicians and cricketers are idolised, one would do well to avoid such irrational actions and set boundaries.
N J Ravi Chander, Bengaluru

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Mallikarjun Kharge @kharge
The biggest issue in LS elections is unemployment, imposed by BJP. Our youth are struggling to find jobs, and we are staring at a demographic nightmare.

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
PM has the power of billionaires, we have trust of farmers. They have lies and fake propaganda, we have 5 resolutions for justice.

Sitaram Yechury @SitaramYechury
The IT notices served to CPI(M) Thrissur district committee on its bank account is totally condemnable.

How to crack UP's reserved seat puzzle

Though BJP has an edge, it is forced to rope in smaller caste groups

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE 17 reserved seats — the constituencies in which seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes based on the size of their population — have a different flavour in the political landscape of Uttar Pradesh.

The strategy to win them in elections is charted differently because these seats are won not on national issues. Basic needs of life matter more than symbols and narratives available outside. The parties capable of getting traction on the ground emerge victorious as these 17 seats make the foundation of the outcome of the rest of 63 Lok Sabha constituencies of the most crucial state of Hindi heartland.

The BJP seems have got its formula right, wining most reserved seats in the last two Lok Sabha polls. In 2014, the party's strike rate was almost cent per cent; it lost two of 17 to Bahujan Samaj Party, which claims to have the strongest presence among Dalits, in 2019.

These 17 seats reserved for Scheduled Castes in UP are Nagina, Bulandshahr, Hathras, Agra, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Misrikh, Etawah, Bahraich, Jalaun, Mohanlalganj, Kaushambi, Barabanki, Lalganj, Machhlishahar, Bansgaon and Robertsganj. These are spread across the state from western to eastern UP.

Barring Nagina in western UP and Lalganj in far east, BJP won all the 15 seats in 2019 despite the presence of the formidable SP-BSP grand alliance.

The significance of reserved seats is attributed to the substantial presence of SC voters on every seat as they make up 21% of the total population of UP. This percentage is broadly divided into 11.7% Jatavs (biggest group), 3.3% Pasis, 3.15% Valmikis, 1.2% Gond, Dhanuk, Khatiks and 1.6% others.

This time, the BJP is treading cautiously. It expanded the reach of NDA by scrupulously including the smaller caste-based groups including Jayant Chaudhury-led RLD, OP Rajbhar-led SBSP, Sanjay Nishad-led NISHAD, Anupriya Patel-led Apna Dal (S), to woo the castes represented by them.

In fact, during the last two Lok Sabha elections, the BJP kept its focus on non-Jatav SCs, non-Yadav OBCs and upper castes, managing a diverse caste matrix minus Muslims and sailed through impressively. The party left the Jatavs as they always consolidated in favour of BSP, and Yadavs in favour of SP.

As per its strategy, the saffron brigade activated its SC cells and asked the leaders to reach out to the Dalits with the message that their interest was safe under the Modi government while highlighting propoor welfare schemes.

Pitted against the ruling alliance is the INDI bloc. However, it seems an uphill task for the opposition under the present scenario when it is represented just by the SP and Congress. The loosening grip of BSP over SC voters is also a reason for the emergence of BJP as the first choice of non-Jatav Dalits.

Analysts say despite riding on the 'PDA' ('Pichchhda, Dalit and Alpsankhyak'), the Samajwadi Party will find it difficult to convince the Dalits who take SP's past regimes as hostile dispensations towards them as their lands were grabbed and they were intimidated and subjugated by powerful Yadavs in many pockets of the state.

RESULTS OF PREVIOUS TWO CONTESTS

● Winner ● Winning margin

NAGINA: 2019 ● Girish Chandra (BSP) ● **568,378** 2014 ● Yashwant Singh (BJP) ● **3,67,825**

BULANDSHAHR: 2019 ● Bhola Singh (BJP) ● **6,81,321:** 2014 ● Bhola Singh (BJP) ● **6,04,449**

HATHRAS: 2019 ● Rajvir Diler (BSP) ● **6,84,299** 2014 ● Rajesh Diwakar (BJP) ● **3,26,000**

AGRA: 2019 ● SPS Baghel (BJP) ● **6,46,875** 2014 ● Ram Shanker Katheria (BJP) ● **5,83,716**

SHAJAHANPUR: 2019 ● Arun Kumar Sagar (BJP) ● **6,88,990** 2014 ● Krishna Raj (BJP) ● **5,25,132**

HARDOI: 2019 ● Jaiprakash (BJP) ● **5,68,143** 2014 ● Anshul Verma (BJP) ● **3,60,501**

MISRIKH: 2019 ● Ashok Kumar Rawat (BJP) ● **5,34,429** 2014 ● Anju Bala (BJP) ● **4,12,575**

ETAWAH: 2019 ● Ram Shanker Katheria (BJP) ● **5,22,119** 2014 ● Ashok kumar Dohrey (BJP) ● **4,39,646**

BAHRAICH: 2019 ● AKSHAIBAR LAL (BJP) ● **5,25,982** 2014 ● Savitiri Bai Phule (BJP) ● **4,32,392**

MOHANLALGANJ: 2019 ● Kaushal Kishore (BJP) ● **6,29,999** 2014 ● Kaushal Kishore (BJP) ● **4,55,274**

JALAUN: 2019 ● BP Singh Verma (BJP) ● **5,81,763** 2014 ● BP Singh Verma (BJP) ● **5,48,631**

KAUSHAMBI: 2019 ● Vinod Kumar Sonkar (BJP) ● **3,83,009** 2014 ● Vinod Kumar Sonkar (BJP) ● **3,31,724**

BARABANKI: 2019 ● Upendra Rawat (BJP) ● **5,35,917** 2014 ● Priyanka Rawat (BJP) ● **4,54, 214**

LALGANJ: 2019 ● Sangeeta Azad (BSP) ● **5,18,820** 2014 ● Neelam Sonkar (BJP) ● **3,24,016**

MACHHLISHAHR: 2019 ● Bhola Nath (BP SAROJ) (BJP) ● **4,88,397** 2014 ● Ram Charitra Nishad (BJP) ● **4,38,210**

BANSGAON: 2019 ● Kamlesh Paswan (BJP) ● **5,46,673** 2014 ● Kamlesh Paswan (BJP) ● **4,17, 959**

ROBERTSGANJ: 2019 ● Pakauri Lal Kol (AD-S) ● **4,47,914** 2014 ● Chhote Lal (BJP) ● **3,78,211**

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Follow him on X@Shahid_Faridi_

Battle Preparedness

PARTIES GO ALL-OUT TO PICK BEST CANDIDATE

The current Lok Sabha election is a keenly contested battle in which all political parties are trying to put up the best possible candidates in every parliamentary seat. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav's failed attempt to change the Moradabad candidate on the last day of filing nomination after he fell out with the jailed co-founder of his party Azam Khan drew a lot of media attention. The Akhilesh-Azam brinkmanship had all the makings of a potboiler. Akhilesh travelling to jail to meet the veteran leader; Azam putting tough conditions for lending support to Samajwadi candidates and then both reportedly going back on their promises. As a result, Akhilesh got stuck with a candidate he didn't want in Moradabad and Azam didn't get the candidate he wanted in his stronghold – Rampur. It was quite a thriller. But who can beat Lalu Yadav when it comes to delivering an interesting story. Lalu's search for the right candidate for the Munger Lok Sabha constituency against former president of the Janata Dal (United) and Nitish Kumar's confidant Rajiv Ranjan aka Lalan Singh led him to local strongman Ashok Mahto. But there was a problem. Mahto had walked out of jail after seventeen years only a year back while the law puts a six-year bar on persons convicted for over two years in criminal cases. Lalu found a novel solution to a seemingly difficult impasse. A decision was taken to help Mahto, who was a bachelor, find a bride and then give his wife the Lok Sabha ticket from Munger. A hunt was launched for a suitable girl for Mahto and he married Anita Kumari. Anita will now take on Lalan.

Peeved Rajputs threaten to up ante against BJP in UP

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally, the Rajput community, miffed over allegedly being "overlooked" by the ruling BJP in ticket distribution for the ensuing Lok Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh, congregated in Nanauta area of Saharanpur district on Sunday to express their discontent and iving a call to defeat the ruling alliance.

Members of the Rajput community thronged Saharanpur from different states to take part in the congregation and discussed a host of issues related to the community.

The most significant decision taken at the congregation was to unite the community against the BJP.

Addressing the gathering, the president of Kisan Mazdoor Sangathan, Thakur Puran Singh exhorted the community members to vote for a person who has the potential and capability to defeat the BJP candidates.

He accused the ruling party of overlooking the Rajput community which had been backing the saffron party for the past many years. "The BJP will have to pay for this attitude towards Rajputs," he said while addressing the people.

Shripal Rana, the BSP candidate of Kairana, also reached Nanauta to attend the congregation. The participants claimed that in all, the BJP had denied ticket to 80 candidates from the community.

A feeling of discontent has been simmering among the Rajputs over the alleged disregard of the community in ticket distribution for quite some time. Earlier, a similar congregation had taken place in Chaubisi area of Ghaziabad Lok Sabha constituency where the community was apparently peeved over denial of ticket to Gen VK Singh, the sitting BJP MP from Ghaziabad.

However, in order to placate the community, Prime Minister Modi held a massive rally in Saharanpur on Saturday morning and a roadshow in Ghaziabad the same evening.

Named Kshatriya Swabhiman Mahakumbh, the congregation commenced after traditional "puja-havan" and oblations on the land of Vijayant Rana at Babupura village of Nanauta area in Saharanpur district. Members of the Rajput community had attended the gathering from a number of states including Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Rajasthan along with the eastern and western regions of Uttar Pradesh.

The next such congregation will take place in village Khera in Sardhana assembly constituency of western UP on April 16.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav during a roadshow ahead of Lok Sabha elections, in Jabalpur, on Sunday | PTI

Media Matters

GOVT MAY LOOK INTO BBC'S NEW PARTNERSHIP

The BBC has outsourced its entire business of generating news content in six Indian languages to a newly created entity – Collective Newsroom. The BBC top brass is flying down from London for the formal launch of the new entity on April 12 in Delhi. The Collective Newsroom's owners and employees are all BBC staff who are now part of the new company. The four founders of the Collective Newsroom are Rupa Jha, who was the editor of languages till the day the new entity was formed, Sara Hassan, a general manager at the BBC, Sanjoy Majumder, managing editor of the BBC and Mukesh Sharma, digital editor of the BBC. Two hundred employees of the BBC have now shifted to the new company. The Collective Newsroom is practically the BBC with a new name and management. The BBC will pay Collective Newsroom a fee for news gathering (salaries of journalists and support staff) and operational expenses (office rentals and other overheads) which will be equal to what the British company was spending on these heads when it directly controlled these operations. The only difference is that Collective Newsroom is a hundred per cent Indian-owned company, while the BBC was a foreign company. The Collective Newsroom was formed as a recent change in the FDI laws barred foreign entities from owning more than 26% of Indian digital news companies. The BBC, UK owned almost 100% of the company managing its India operations. The BBC's UK arm has now applied for a 26% stake in Collective Newsroom. Government sources said the tax authorities will look into the beneficial ownership and the structure of the new entity before acceding to the BBC request for equity acquisition.

Nepal proposes customs pact with India to curb border trade offences

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

NEPAL has proposed a customs agreement with India that will enable exchange of information and could help in curbing customs-related offences across the border, officials said.

India is Nepal's largest trading partner and the Himalayan country shares a border of over 1850 km with Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttrakhand. Since most of the trade takes place through land, instances of offences are high.

"We have proposed the customs agreement and if it is agreed upon and signed, it will reduce customs-related offences," Ram Prasad Ghimire, revenue secretary, Nepal finance ministry, said in Birgunj on Sunday. India hasn't yet responded to the proposal, but sources say any move that will help in curbing offences across the border is likely to be considered as it works in favour of both the countries.

In December 2023, India exported goods worth $603 million to Nepal and its import stood at $77.7 million. Nepal is imposing a 50% penalty if a mismatch is noticed between the invoice and customs records.

"Since Nepal is landlocked, their international trade too transits from India – mainly through ports in Haldia and Kolkata in West Bengal. Since 2016 Vishakapatnam port is also bringing in freight from Nepal. From these ports the goods are shipped through roadways or railways to Nepal's border customs," said Nepal's ministry of commerce, industries and supplies.

As of now, for goods that Nepal imports from India, the check list includes an authority letter by customs agent, delivery order in case of inland clearance depots (ICD) at Biratnagar, Birgunj and Bhairahawa. Besides an invoice is required along with a Nepalese customs declaration.

Many parts in north-west to get relief from sweltering heat

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

RAINFALL and thunderstorms will likely bring temporary respite in several parts of the country, especially East, Central and Peninsular India, that have been reeling under heat wave for the past week.

The region is set to receive moderate rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms, gusty winds and hail storms.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD), however, has warned of damage to plantation, horticulture and standing crops. Besides, the season is known for significant lightning incidents causing loss of human and animal lives in the open. Moreover, two back-to-back Western Disturbances are expected to bring light snowfall on the higher altitudes of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, and moderate rainfall in the Northwest region from April 10 and another from April 13.

Notably, the central wheat crop belt, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Western UP, will start wheat harvest from the second week of April. However, widespread rainfall with thunderstorms and lightning will likely damage ready-to-harvest crops. In the meantime, heatwave-like conditions will likely prevail in isolated pockets of North Tamil Nadu, South Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Interior Karnataka. The hot and humid weather will likely prevail over Kerala Mahe, coastal Gujarat, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

A cyclonic circulation lies over east Assam in lower tropospheric levels, which will likely bring widespread moderate rainfall in the plains and snowfall in higher altitudes over Arunachal Pradesh this week, the weather office observed.

The rainfall will accompany thunderstorms and lightning over sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam and Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram. A trough runs from interior Odisha to north Tamil Nadu across Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha and interior Karnataka in lower tropospheric levels will bring widespread moderate rainfall in sweltering Odisha, Madhya Pradesh Chhattisgarh, among other parts.

Wheat harvest from April

The central wheat crop belt, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Western UP, will start wheat harvest from the second week of April. However, widespread rainfall with thunderstorms and lightning will likely damage ready-to-harvest crops. In the meantime, heatwave-like conditions will likely prevail in isolated pockets of North Tamil Nadu, South Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Outdoor workers face health risks amid rise in temperature

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

RISING heat will reduce the working capacity of outdoor workers and cause severe health impacts, says a study. India is among the tropical countries where outdoor workers get severely impacted due to humid heat which leads to loss of over 20 per cent working hours, it said.

It underlines the rise in 1 degree C of additional warming, heat and humidity, which will hinder the ability of one in eight people living in the tropics during most daylight hours.

Recently, the Indian Meteorological Department forecast an above-normal heat wave days and higher temperature in April-June. It would have a detrimental effect on outdoor workers such as farmers, construction workers, small-scale fish workers and others. The study, 'Impacts of warming on outdoor worker well-being in the tropics and adaptation options' published in One Earth journal, underlines the heat-impact on outdoor workers in the tropics that leads to loss of labour productivity as wages push outdoor workers into a web of poverty.

The heat affects work capacity and productivity through its physiological effects. Excessive heat enhances blood flow to the skin which can reduce the ability of muscles to perform physical work.

"Dry heat is relatively easier to handle. When the body heats up and we drink water, there is evaporation and the body cools down. However, in humid heat, evaporation reduces because of high moisture in the air which hampers the body's cooling mechanism," says Dr Vimal Mishra, Vikram Sarabhai Chair Professor, Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences, IIT Gandhinagar.

Another study, conducted in Tamil Nadu and published in October last year, found that occupational exposure to extreme heat more than doubled the risk of miscarriage among pregnant women, with the heat generally raising the overall risk of adverse pregnancy and birth outcomes.

Heat affects work capacity

The heat affects work capacity and productivity through its physiological effects. Excessive heat enhances blood flow to the skin which can reduce the ability of muscles to perform physical work. "Dry heat is relatively easier to handle. When the body heats up and we drink water, there is evaporation and the body cools down," says Vimal Mishra from IIT-Gandhinagar.

HIGH-STAKE CONTEST IN MP FIRST PHASE

BJP won 5 of 6 seats – Mandla-ST, Sidhi, Balaghat, Jabalpur and Shahdol-ST – in 2019. This newspaper does a reality check this time

SEATS 29

5.63CR VOTERS

MALE 2.89 CR | FEMALE 2.73 CR

THIRD GENDER: 1,237

64,523 POLLING STATIONS

SEATS: 6

REGION: ENTIRE MAHAKOSHAL AND PARTS OF VINDHYA REGION

2019 | 2023 | 2024

SIDHI

Total Voters **20.21 LAKH**

2019: Riti Pathak (BJP) winner **54.44%** votes; Ajay Singh 'Rahul' (Cong) loser **32.11%** votes

Winning margin: 2.86 lakh

2023 assembly polls: Out of the eight assembly segments BJP won 7 and Congress just 1

2024 candidates: **Dr Rajesh Mishra** (BJP) **Kamleshwar Patel** (Cong) **Ajay Pratap Singh** (GGP)

BALAGHAT

Total Voters **18.71 LAKH**

2019: Dhal Singh Bisen (BJP) winner **50.74%** votes; Madhu Bhagat (Cong) loser **33.09%** votes

Winning margin: 2.42 lakh

2023 assembly polls: Out of the eight assembly segments BJP and Congress won 4 each seats

2024 candidates: **Bharti Pardhi** (BJP) **Samrat Saraswar** (Cong) **Kankar Munjare** (GGP)

CHHINDWARA

Total Voters **16.28 LAKH**

2019: Nakul Nath (Cong) winner **47.06%**; Nath Shah (BJP) loser **44.05%** votes

Winning margin: 37,536

2023 assembly polls: Congress won all seven assembly seats like 2018 polls

2024 candidates: **Nakul Nath** (Cong) **Vivek Sahu** (BJP)

MANDLA-ST

Total Voters **20.97 LAKH**

2019: Faggan Singh Kulaste (BJP) winner **48.59%** votes; Kamal Singh Marawi (Cong) loser **42.15%**

Winning margin: 97,674

2023 assembly polls: Out of the 8 assembly segments, Congress won 5 and the BJP 3

2024 candidates: **Faggan Singh Kulaste** (BJP) **Omkar Singh Markam** (Congress)

SHAHDOL-ST

Total Voters **17.72 LAKH**

2019: Himadri Singh (BJP) winner **60.39%** votes; Pramila Singh (Cong) loser **27.83%** votes

Winning margin: 4.03 lakh

2023 assembly polls: Out of the eight assembly segments BJP won 7 and the Congress just one

2024 candidates: **Himadri Singh** (BJP) **Phoondelal Marko** (Congress)

JABALPUR

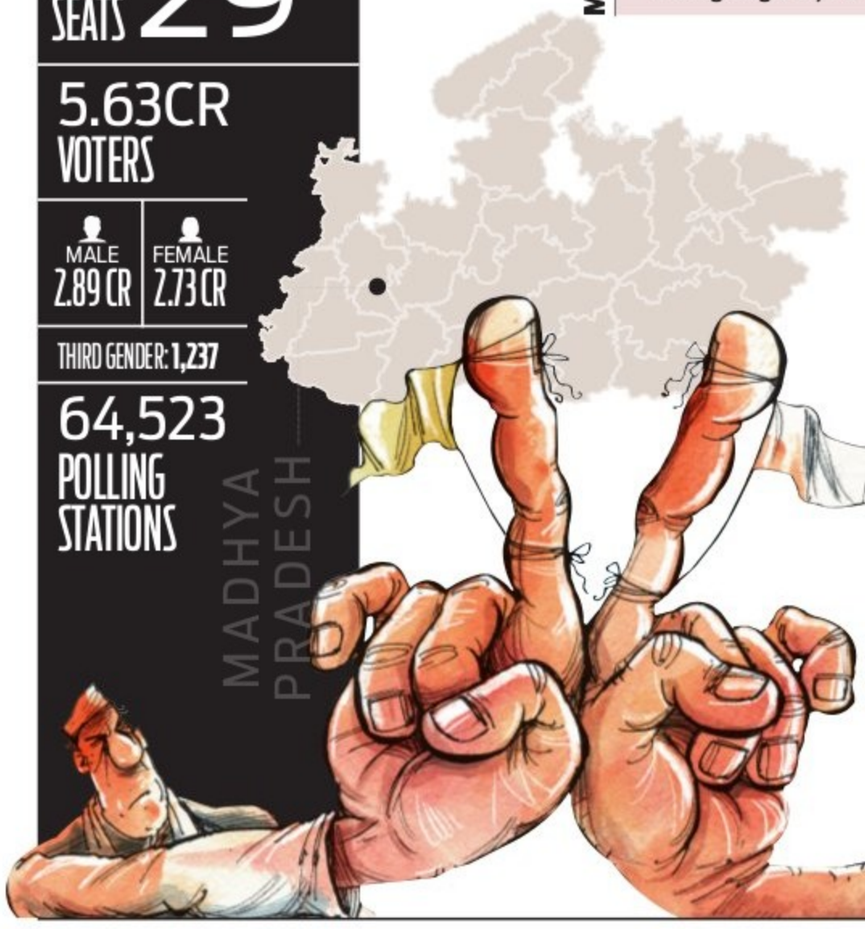
Total Voters **18.83 LAKH**

2019: Rakesh Singh (BJP) winner **65.41%** votes; Vivek Tankha (Cong) loser **4.54 lakh** votes

Winning margin: 2.86 lakh

2023 assembly polls: BJP won 7 and Congress just one

2024 candidates: **Ashish Dube** (BJP) **Dinesh Yadav** (Congress)



BATTLE FOR MAHAKOSHAL, VINDHYA

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

SIX seats of eastern Madhya Pradesh's tribal-dominated Mahakoshal and Vindhya region will go to polls in the first phase on April 19. The six seats include Chhindwara, which since 1980 has become synonymous with Congress politician Kamal Nath and Mandla-ST from where Union minister Faggan Singh Kulaste is eyeing a seventh term in Parliament.

Though the BJP won five out of the six seats — Mandla-ST, Sidhi, Balaghat, Jabalpur and Shahdol-ST — in 2019, if the 2023 assembly poll results are to be taken into account, the contest could be tough, especially on Chhindwara, Mandla-ST and Balaghat.

In Chhindwara (the lone Lok Sabha seat won by Congress in MP in 2019), Nakul Nath, the MP son of Kamal Nath, is facing BJP's district president Vivek Sahu 'Bunty'.

In Mandla-ST, BJP MP Faggan Singh Kulaste takes on ex-minister and four-time Congress MLA from Dindori-ST Omkar Sigh Markam, which will be a re-run of the 2014 contest, when Kulaste had won by more than 1 lakh votes. However, the anti-incumbency against Kulaste, which saw him lose the recent assembly poll from his home seat Niwas-ST brightens the Congress prospects. Adding to Kulaste's woes is the 90-km patch Jabalpur-Mandla highway, which is incomplete since the last 10 years.

In the adjoining Balaghat seat, the BJP and Congress have both fielded new faces, Bharti Pardhi and Samrat Saraswat, respectively. Competing with them is veteran politician and ex-MP Kankar Munjare, who is fighting as a BSP nominee after denial of ticket by the Congress.

According to analysts, the contest may ultimately boil down to caste lines, where the lone OBC Pawar caste candidate Bharti Pardhi is banking on her caste voters (25%). She is also eyeing to dent into 15% Lodhi voters on the back of the influence of her political mentor and MP minister Prahlad Patel, who is from the same OBC caste. Congress candidate Samrat Saraswat who comes from the Kshatriya caste is eyeing consolidation of all non-Pawar caste voters against the BJP nominee.

In Jabalpur seat too where the BJP has been unbeaten since 1996, the fight will be between two new faces – Ashish Dube (BJP) and Dinesh Yadav (Congress). While both are known for their organisational skills, they are contesting their first Lol Sabha polls. According to analysts, the Ram temple effect can best be felt in Jabalpur. Among five seats of the first phase which were won by the BJP in 2019, Jabalpur was won by the biggest margin of 4.54 lakh by four-time winner Rakesh Singh, now PWD minister in MP.

The remaining two seats — Shahdol-ST and Sidhi — are part of the Vindhya region, which neighbours Chhattisgarh on one side and eastern UP on the other. In Shahdol-ST, ex-Congress leader and first-time BJP MP Himadri Singh is taking on three-time Congress MLA Phoondelal Marko, who despite suffering from a kidney infection is fighting hard against his ex-partymate. But the work done by the Modi government in terms of building railway infrastructure as also the particularly vulnerable tribal group Baiga tribe specific initiatives may give Singh an edge. Besides, the penetration of RSS into Shahdol may also help Singh.

The Sidhi seat of Vindhya region, which BJP's Riti Pathak won last two times by big margins, also promises to throw an interesting contest, more on caste lines, just like seats of adjoining eastern UP. In Sidhi, the BJP has fielded new face Dr Rajesh Mishra (whose family owns a prominent hospital in Sidhi town). He's not just taking on young Patel leader, CWC member and ex-minister Kamleshwar Patel, but also BJP rebel and ex-Rajya Sabha member Ajay Pratap Singh, contesting as GGP candidate. Adding to Mishra's problems is independent candidate Laxman Singh Bains.

ELECTION2024

U'khand Cong leader joins BJP

Senior Uttarakhand Congress leader and former cabinet minister Dinesh Agarwal officially joined the BJP on Sunday morning, accompanied by his supporters. In response, upon learning of Agarwal's defection, the Uttarakhand Congress swiftly expelled him from the party for a period of six years. Agarwal, who had served as a cabinet minister in the Congress-led government, had contested the assembly elections seven times under

EC goes big on social media

The Election Commission has launched a variety of campaigns across social media platforms to nudge young and urban voters to cast their ballot in the elections. The poll watchdog has also initiated a campaign urging people to first verify then amplify what they get on social media related to elections. Polling for seven phase Lok Sabha elections will commence from April 19 with June 1 being the last phase. It is nudging young and first-time voters through 'Turning 18' campaign.

AIFB seeks Cong support

The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) candidate from Khajuraho seat of Madhya Pradesh RB Prajapati met the state Congress president Jitu Patwari in Bhopal on Sunday, seeking the prime opposition party's support in the April 26 polls. The Khajuraho seat — from where state BJP chief and sitting MP VD Sharma is the ruling party candidate — had been left by the Congress for the Samajwadi Party as part of the seat sharing deal between the two major partners of the opposition's mega INDIA bloc.

CHHATTISGARH

Barring Bastar in '19, 5 reserved seats have always stood by BJP

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

IN the Lok Sabha elections held in Chhattisgarh so far, the BJP held the sway over the five reserved constituencies, the Election Commission data shows. Of the 11 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state, four are reserved for the scheduled tribes (ST) and one for the scheduled caste (SC).

Barring the victory by Congress candidate Deepak Baij from Bastar ST-reserved seat in the 2019 polls, the grand old party drew a blank in the reserved constituencies in the four Lok Sabha elections held in the state in the last two decades. Baij, now the state Congress president, is not contesting this time.

The BJP has been winning the reserved tribal seats of Kanker, Raigarh, Sarguja and

Bastar, and the SC-reserved constituency of Janjgir-Champa. According to analysts, the poll battle in Bastar, where the Congress stalwarts like Shankar Sodhi and Mahendra Karma couldn't win, seems evenly poised this time with six-time Congress MLA Kawasi Lakma pitted against the BJP's first-timer Mahesh Kashyap who is closely associated with VHP.

Reserved seats won in Lok Sabha polls held so far in Chhattisgarh

LS seats	Reserved Category	BJP	Congress
Kanker	Scheduled Tribe	4	0
Janjgir-Champa	Scheduled Caste	4	0
Raigarh	Scheduled Tribe	4	0
Sarguja	Scheduled Tribe	4	0
Bastar	Scheduled Tribe	3*	1*

(*Only in 2019 polls)

The BJP has been wining Kanker and Bastar seats from the 1999 elections onward. The Raigarh seat remains a BJP stronghold with present CM Vishnu Deo Sai winning from there three times in a row from 2004. The BJP has given ticket to Congress turncoat Chintamani Maharaj, who was earlier named as a "beneficiary" by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the alleged coal levy scam, to contest from Sarguja in north Chhattisgarh.

All the reserved seats in Chhattisgarh have more women voters than men, EC data shows. More women exercising their franchise shows the level of awareness among the voters, analysts say. In the 2023 Assembly polls, the BJP returned to power in the state getting 46.27 per cent vote share. Analysts in the know of the state politics said the BJP hopes to make inroads into the Congress vote bank as several leaders have defected to the saffron party.

ANANTNAG-RAJOURI

Mehbooba in direct contest against Azad, NC's Gujjar face

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president and former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti will contest the Lok Sabha polls from the Anantnag-Rajouri seat and will be pitched in direct fight against another former J&K CM and DPAP chief Ghulam Nabi Azad and National Conference's prominent Gujjar leader Mian Altaf Ahmed.

PDP parliamentary board chief Sartaj Madni today announced party candidates for three LS seats of Kashmir.

Madni announced that Mehbooba would contest from the Anantnag-Rajouri LS seat while party's youth-wing president Waheed Parra would contest polls from the Srinagar LS seat and former Rajya Sabha member Mir Fayaz, who recently rejoined PDP, from Baramulla.

Last week, Mehbooba announced candidates for three Valley seats after a snub from INDIA and Gupkar alliance ally, the National Conference. The NC announced to contest all three Valley LS seats without leaving any seat for Mehbooba, saying PDP was weakened and is not in a position to contest.

The NC and PDP have left both LS seats in the Jammu region for Congress. Both parties are supporting Congress on the two seats and did not field candidates.

The entry of Mehbooba in the fray has made the contest in the Anantnag-Rajouri seat, the newly carved out constituency after the delimitation exercise, very interesting.

Mehbooba, 64, would be pitched in a direct fight against another former CM and DPAP chief Ghulam Nabi Azad and prominent Gujjar leader, Mian Altaf Ahmed.

She had also unsuccessfully contested the LS polls from the constituency in 2019 and secured the third position. In 2019, the Anantnag LS seat was won by NC's Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi but the party has not repeated him in these polls.

The Anantnag-Rajouri constituency, which is spread over both Kashmir and Jammu regions, comprises 18 assembly constituencies.

The seat has a significant population of Gujjars and Bakerwals and Paharis. Of the 14 lakh voters in the constituency, about 50% of voters are Kashmiri Muslims, 28.5% Paharis and 21.5% Gujjars.

Snubbed by INDIA bloc

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MUKHTAR A 'NAVALNY'

Drawing a parallel between the death of Mukhtar Ansari and that of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny in prison, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday raised doubts on the circumstances under which the gangster-turned-politician died. "How can we accept that it was a natural death? Even in Russia, the leader of opposition was poisoned and killed inside the jail," he said. Akhilesh visited the family of Ansari in Ghazipur on Sunday and recalled the role of his deceased father and grandfather in freedom movement | NAMITA BAJPAI

Rajnath seeks support for Meghwal, backs 'one poll'

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh strongly advocated for a unified election system in India during his campaign in Rajasthan's Bikaner district on Sunday. Supporting Law Minister and BJP candidate Arjun Meghwal, Singh emphasised the benefits of "one nation, one election," stating that it would significantly save resources and money. He also claimed that one of the Modi government's key achievements was curbing terrorist attacks, which were quite frequent during the Congress regime.

"There should be only one election in the country as it will save money and resources. Congress, as usual, opposes everything; it's their nature. Previously, terrorist incidents occurred daily, but now, no one dares to threaten our nation," the minister asserted.

He remarked, "One country, one election will garner people's support, yet Congress persists in its opposition." Additionally, he predicted that India would become the world's third-largest economy by the beginning of 2027, following only America and China.

Addressing the issue further, he mentioned, "Assembly elections in Rajasthan occurred just three months ago, now followed by Lok Sabha elections, municipal elections, and Gram Panchayat elections. Our Prime Minister initiated the idea of synchronising elections nationwide, with a committee led by former President Ramnath Kovind submitting a report to current President Droupadi Murmu. This move will receive widespread support from the people. Despite Congress' habitual opposition, I believe this will save money, resources, and time."

In his attack on the grand old party, Singh claimed that corruption and Congress were synonymous and asked people to support the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi if they wish to see an India where the corrupt do not dominate but are punished strongly.

Rajnath said, "Prime Minister Modi's political track record is excellent because we prioritise the public as our nation, unlike Congress, which prioritises its own members as a family." He expressed disappointment with Congress for questioning surgical strikes, stating, "Congress doubts our army soldiers and demands proof of the surgical strike. While the entire world has seen the evidence, Congress remains skeptical."

'One nation one poll would save resources'

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh strongly advocated for a unified election system in India and emphasised the benefits of "one nation, one election," stating that it would significantly save resources and money. "There should be only one election in the country as it will save money and resources. Congress, as usual, opposes everything," he said.

10 tonnes of garbage to be collected from Mount Everest by a Nepal Army team

ISRAEL ONE STEP AWAY FROM VICTORY: NETANYAHU

No truce until Hamas frees all hostages, Israeli PM assures cabinet colleagues in meeting held to mark six months of war

JERUSALEM

PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday said Israel was "one step away from victory" in the Gaza war and vowed there would be no truce until Hamas frees all hostages. He was speaking in a cabinet meeting marking six months of the war that broke out on October 7 after an unprecedented attack on Israel by Hamas militants. "We are one step away from victory," Netanyahu said. "But the price we paid is painful and heartbreaking." Speaking as truce talks were expected to resume in Cairo with international mediators, he said: "There will be no ceasefire without the return of hostages. It just won't happen."

He stressed that "Israel is ready for a deal, Israel is not ready to surrender".

Palestinians use a road lined with damaged and destroyed buildings in Khan Yunis on Sunday | AP

"Instead of international pressure being directed at Israel, which only causes Hamas to harden its positions, the pressure of the international community should be directed against Hamas. This will advance the release of the hostages." Israel has faced a storm of international outrage over the killing of seven aid workers of the US-based food charity World Central Kitchen in a Gaza air strike on April 1.

US President Joe Biden in a phone call with Netanyahu on Thursday demanded an "immediate ceasefire" and hinted at making US support for Israel conditional on curtailing the killing of civilians and improving humanitarian conditions. Netanyahu meanwhile accused Iran of being behind several attacks against Israel "through its proxies".

"Anyone who hurts us or plans to hurt us—we will hurt him. We put this principle into practice, all the time and in recent days," Netanyahu added.

Fears that the war in Gaza could spread have intensified after Iran vowed to hit back for the killing of seven of its Revolutionary Guards in an air strike Monday on the consular annex of its embassy in Damascus. Iran's leaders have pledged retaliation, and the leader of Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, Hassan Nasrallah, has called the consulate strike a "turning point". *Agencies*

Iran warns of attacks targeting Israeli missions

tehran: An adviser to Iran's supreme leader warned on Sunday that Israeli embassies are "no longer safe" after a strike in Syria which Tehran blamed on Israel killed seven Revolutionary Guards members. "The embassies of the Zionist regime are no longer safe," Yahya Rahim Safavi, senior adviser to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, was quoted as saying by the ISNA news agency. Tehran has vowed to avenge Monday's air strike on Damascus that levelled the Iranian embassy's consular annex, killing seven Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) members including two generals. "The resistance front is ready; how it (the response) will be, we have to wait," Safavi said, noting that "confronting this brutal regime is a legal and legitimate right". He also noted that multiple Israeli embassies around the region "have been shuttered". There was no immediate comment from Israel. Monday's attack, which Britain-based war monitor the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said killed 16 people, was the fifth raid on Syria in a week blamed on Israel. Among the dead were generals Mohammad Reza Zahedi and Mohammad Hadi Haji Rahimi who were senior commanders in the Quds Force, the IRGC's foreign operations arm. Zahedi, 63, had held several commands during a career spanning more than 40 years. He was the most senior Iranian soldier killed since a United States missile strike at Baghdad airport in 2020 killed Quds Force chief General Qasem Soleimani. Monday's strike in Damascus took place against the backdrop of the Gaza war which began with Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel which killed 1,170 people, mostly civilians. Tehran backs Hamas but has denied any direct involvement in the attack which sparked massive Israeli retaliation against the Gaza Strip. AFP

6 Pak security personnel killed in separate terror attacks

ISLAMABAD

SIX security personnel, including a senior police officer, died while 12 militants were killed in separate terror incidents and security operations in Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces in the past two days, officials said on Sunday.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the Pakistan armed forces, said in the Balochistan province, four militants were killed in two separate incidents. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), eight militants were killed in the Kot Sultan area of Kulachi tehsil in Dera Ismail Khan district when security forces carried out an operation against them, the ISPR said. The security forces recovered weapons, ammunition and explosives from the slain militants, it added. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Lakki Marwat, a DSP and two cops were killed and a constable was injured by armed miscreants in two separate incidents on Friday night, officials said.

The officials said DSP Gul Muhammad, along with other policemen, had set up a temporary checkpoint on the busy Peshawar-Karachi highway as part of police's security preparations before the festival of Eid-ul-Fitr. As they were returning from the checkpoint, armed men opened fire on the police van near Manjiwala Chowk, leaving the DSP and Constable Naseem Gul dead, a report said. *PTI*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client has intended to purchase the immovable property mentioned in the schedule from its owners **1) Sri. B. Mangilal** S/o Bhikaramji, aged 64 years, **2) Sri. T. Chenaram** s/o Tikaramji, aged 51 years, **3) Sri. Laxmanram Choudhary** s/o Late Ramlalji, aged 44 years, **4) Sri. P. Venaram** s/o Pemaram, aged 57 years and my client has negotiated the sale price and has already paid advance amount to the said owners and the owners have delivered the photostat copies of the documents related to schedule property to my client. If any persons having any claim or objection whatsoever upon the schedule property may please appear in person in the address mentioned above along with legal documents within 15 days from the date of this publication. If no such claim or objection from any person is received within 15 days. My client will proceed for registration of sale deed from said owners. Any claim / objection etc., received after 15 days will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

Agricultural land in Sy. No. 16/1, having an extent of 0.06.12 guntas and Sy. No. 16/2, having extent of 0.04.12 guntas, situated in Kumbaranahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District.

Sy. No. 16/1 is bounded on **East by** : Property of Butta Reddy, **West by** : Property of C.K. Chinnappa Sold to B. Mangilal and others, **North by** : Property of Butta Reddy, **South by** : Government Road.

Sy. No. 16/2 is bounded on **East by** : Property of C.K. Chinnappa sold to B. Mangilal and others, **West by** : Property K. Srinivas, **North by** : Property of Butta Reddy, **South by** : Road.

A. Srinivasa, B.Sc., LLB,
Advocate Flat No. T-7,
Shivaganga Melody,
Yelachenahalli,Bengaluru-560062
Mob : 9845582152

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.**, having its **Administrative Office** at **No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **B.M.Road, 316 I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **20-09-2021** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) M/s. Shariff Silk Traders, at 2893, 2nd Cross, Mothinagara Main Road, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562159. No.2) Mr. Mohsin Shariff, S/o. Ahamed Shariff, at 2893, 2nd Cross, Mothinagara Main Road, Ramanagara - 562159. No.3) Mrs. Farheen Shaik @ Shariff, W/o. Mohsin Shariff, at 2893, 2nd Cross, Mothinagara Main Road, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562159** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.26,75,763/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Three only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **18-09-2021** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 04th day of April 2024.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.26,93,652/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Two only)** and interest thereon from **26-03-2024** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr. Mohsin Shariff, S/o Ahamed Shariff)

All that piece and parcel of G + 2 RCC Residential Building bearing 1) Old Khatha No.2338/1850 and 2893 PID No. 16-2-3-47. Measuring : East to West 32 Feet and North to South 15 Feet. 2) Old Khatha No. 2338/1860 and 2893 PID No.16-2-3-47. Measuring : East to West 22 Feet, North to South 15 Feet together with building thereon situated at Ward No.16, Mothinagara. 47, Balageri Road, Block No.2, Mothinagara, Ramanagara Town, Ramanagara District. Bounded on:- East by - Property of Mohammed Shariff in 'C' Schedule, West by - Balageri Main Road, North by - Riyaz Building Property, South by - Plot No.1 of Applicant Mohasin Shariff in same number. Bounded on:- East by - Property of Mohammed Shariff in 'C' Schedule, West by - Balageri Main Road, North by - Plot No.2 in same Number Applicant Mohasin Shariff, South by - Road.

Place : Bengaluru-Ramanagara, Date : 04-04-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 01-CWS-MYSS-2024-25
Dated: 02-04-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Maintenance of Bio toilet tanks at Central Workshop, South Western Railway, Mysuru for a period of 02 years	Rs. 58,16,184/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 17.00 Hrs. on 23-04-2024**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Workshop Manager
PUB/07/AAD/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru Workshop**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No: 11-MYS 2023-24
Dated: 28-03-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
5 watt VHE Digital Walkie Talkie Set **(Tender No. L9245265)**	Rs. 1,31,00,000/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 24-04-2024**

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/01/AAD/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. CIVIL JUDGE & J.M.F.C AT DEVANAHALLI

C. Mis. No. 401/2023

BETWEEN: Sri. Kempanna & others ... PETITIONERS
AND: The Tahasildar, Yelahanka ... **RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Petitioners have filed the above petition for the death certificate of Prema W/o Kempanna was died on 19-12-2008 at Kodagalahatti Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Civil Judge & JMFC at Devanahalli and date of hearing on **18/04/2024** at **11:00 A.M.** in C.Misc. No.401/2023.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 27/03/2024

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Civil Judge & J.M.F.C. Court, Devanahalli

Advocate for Petitioners: **Sri MANJUNATH .D**
Office at Hunasamaranahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District.

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOST OF DOCUMENTS

I, **MUNNA MUNIRAJU** Aadhar No. 5170 1554 1931, aged about 29 years, S/o. Late Muniraju. B, residing at No. 26/9, 19th Cross, 2nd Stage, Bapujinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 026, I have lost the Original Sale Deed No. 5597 / 1993-94 of the property bearing Site (67/51/A, 324, 70) No. 52/1, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Kenchanahalli, R. R. Nagar, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore - 560 098, which was registered in my father Late. Muniraju's name and I am the owner of the property through Registered Will.

In this regard I have lodged online police complaint, vide online lost report No. 1005802/2024 dated 06-04-2024. If anybody found please **Call: 9901716334.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that our Client proposes to purchase the Properties more particularly described in the schedule herein below and herein after referred to as the **"Schedule Properties"** from its owners namely **(1)Balamuralikrishna S.,** Son of Sanjeevappa, residing at No.411, Bandenagar, old Baiyappahalli, Maruthi Sevanagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore–560033 **(2) S. Shylaja,** Daughter of Sanjeevappa, residing at Soppahalli, Dibbur, Chikkaballapur–562101 **(3) Rajeshwari,** Wife of Sundar Murthy, residing at Thimmaiah Layout, Govt. College Road, Kumbena Agrahara, Kadugodi, Bangalore South, Bangalore–560067 **(4) K. Ravindranath,** Son of T. Krishna- moorthy, residing at No.87, 2nd Cross, old Airport Road, Kodihalli, HAL II Stage, Bangalore–560008 **(5) Padmashree K.,** Wife of Prasanna Kumar H.P., residing at No.56, Kashyap Nilaya, 10th Cross 'E' Block, Kanakanagar, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore–560032; **(6) Hemalatha Balaji,** Wife of Balaji V.K., residing at No.7, Kanakanagar Main Road, Chikka-muniyappa complex, Kanakanagar, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore–560032; **(7) K. Shree Ranga Rajan,** Son of T. Krishna Moorthy, residing at No.87, 2nd Cross, next to Leela Palace Kodihalli, HAL II Stage, Bangalore – 560 008; **(8) Shanthamma V.,** Wife of Ramaswamy Acharya, residing at No.28, Sri Ranga Murthi Building, 24th Cross, Behind Rama Temple, Doddanekundi, Bangalore–560037 **(9) Dwarkeesh R.,** Son of Ramaswamy Acharya, residing at Temple Street, 2nd Main Road, Sree Kumbeshwara Temple, Kadubeesanahalli, Panathur, Bangalore–560103 **(10) Harish R.,** Son of Ramaswamy Acharya, residing at No.28, Sri Ranga Murthi Building, 24th Cross, Behind Rama Temple, Doddanekundi, Bangalore–560037 **(11) Murali R.,** Son of Ramaswamy Acharya, residing at No.28, Sri Ranga Murthi Building, 24th Cross, Behind Rama Temple, Doddanekundi, Bangalore–560037 **(12) V. Sathyanarayana,** Son of (late) A. Vardachar, residing at #430, Doddanekundi, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560037 **(13) Swathi,** Daughter of V. Sathyanarayana, residing at #430, Doddanekundi, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560037 **(14) Padma,** Wife of (late) Jayaprakash, residing at Ettakodi Village, Maluru Thaluka, Kalkunte Agrahara, Bangalore Rural-560067 **(15) Chandana J.,** Daughter of (late) Jayaprakash, W/o, Prasanna Kumar, residing at #39, 2nd Main, 13th Cross, Gas Godown, Sir M.V. Layout, Tindlu, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560097 **(16) Champaka J.,** Daughter of (late) Jayaprakash, W/o, Manjunatha. R., residing at #110, Kathahalli (Maruthi Nagar) Bangarpet, BEML Nagar, Kolar-563115 **(17) Archana J.,** Daughter of (late) Jayaprakash, residing at Nelamangala Taluk, Jakkanahalli, Bangalore Rural-562123 **(18) Vijaykumar Vishwapriya,** Son of (late) Vardachar, residing at Ettakodi Village, Kalkunte, Agrahara Post, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Chikkathirupathy, Kolar-563160 **(19) Vishalakshi,** Wife of Ananthramachar, residing at Bheemapura, Shivanapura, Hosakote, Bangalore Rural-562122 and **(20) Anjana,** Wife of V. Sathyanarayana, residing at residing at #430, Doddanekundi, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560037.

Any persons including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, a company, banks, financial institution(s), non-banking financial institution(s), a firm, an association of persons or a body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of the Schedule Properties or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, gift, trust, inheritance, succession, possession, lease, tenancy, maintenance easement, license, bequeath, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, right of way, lispendens, agreement, FSI consumption, development rights, or any liability or commitment or otherwise or demand of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the documents, to the undersigned within a period of 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of the publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall be entitled to complete the purchase in respect of the Schedule Properties. Objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the period stipulated above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our client.

SCHEDULE

1. All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.131** admeasuring **3 Acres 06 Guntas** (and 2 guntas of kharab land)situated at Yattakodi Village, Lakkuru Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded on the:
East by : Land belonging to S. Venkatarama Reddy, Vijikumar, Channa Reddy & Mahadev
West by : Land belonging to the children of (late) C. Chinnappa
North by : Land belonging to S. Krishna Reddy, and South by : Road.

2. All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.210** admeasuring **1 Acre 15 Guntas** (and1 gunta of kharab land) situated at Yattakodi Village, Lakkuru Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District and bounded on the:
East by : Road;
West by : Land belonging to C. Nagaraja Reddy and Kasamma's Krishnappa;
North by : Land belonging to C. Nagaraja Reddy; and South by : Land belonging to Kasamma's Krishnappa.

LAKSHMINARAYANA .N. Place: Bangalore
Advocate Date: 08/04/2024
LN & Associates
Hari Mansion, No.3/6,
Bull Temple Road, Opp.
Uma Theatre, Chamarajpet,
Bangalore – 560 018.
Mob: 9620883339, 9342883814, 9986746318, 9980770777

भारत सरकार / Government of India
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / Department of Space
द्रवनो दनप्रणाली केंद्र / LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE

इसरो isro

एचएएलप्स्टेज, 80 फीट रोड / HAL II STAGE,
80 FEET ROAD, बेंगलूरु / BANGALORE-560 008.
फोनसं. / Phone No.080 25037171. ई–मेल / Email:purchase@lpscb.gov.in

विज्ञापन संदर्भ सं./Advt. Ref. No.: द्र.नो.प्र.के.बें/LPSCB/ईओआई/EOI/02-24 तिथि/Date: 08.04.2024

प्रस्ताव / रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति के लिए अनुरोध
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL / EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

द्र. नो. प्र. के. (बें) में दाब ट्रांसड्यूसरों के संविरचन, समुच्चयन, अंशांकन, परीक्षण एवं इनकी सुपुर्दगी के लिए रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति।

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR FABRICATION, ASSEMBLY, CALIBRATION, TESTING AND DELIVERY PRESSURE TRANSDUCERS AT LPSC (B).

निर्धारित तिथियाँ / SCHEDULE

ईओआई की तिथि / **EoI Date**	: **08.04.2024**
नियत तिथि / **Due Date**	: **07.05.2024**

सभी प्रस्ताव मोहरबंद वलफाफे में "क्रय व भंडार अधिकारी प्रशासन बिल्डिंग, द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र, बेंगलूरु - 560008" को पंजीकृत डाकध्कूरियरध्सीधी सुपुर्दगी के माध्यम से बोली प्रस्तुतीकरण की नियत तिथि या उससे पहले प्रस्तुत किए जाएँ।

All Proposals in sealed cover should be sent to "Purchase and Stores Officer, Administration Building, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Bengaluru - 560008" through registered post / courier / direct delivery on or before bid submission due date.

हस्ताक्षरित / Signed
क्रय व भंडार अधिकारी / Purchase & Stores Officer

भारत सरकार / Government of India
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / Department of Space
द्रवनो दनप्रणाली केंद्र / LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE

इसरो isro

एचएएलप्स्टेज, 80 फीट रोड / HAL II STAGE,
80 FEET ROAD, बेंगलूरु / BANGALORE-560 008.
फोनसं. / Phone No.080 25037171. ई–मेल / Email:purchase@lpscb.gov.in

विज्ञापन संदर्भ सं./Advt. Ref. No.: द्र.नो.प्र.के.बें/LPSCB/ईओआई/EOI/01-24 तिथि/Date: 08.04.2024

प्रस्ताव / रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति के लिए अनुरोध
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL / EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

द्र. नो. प्र. के. (बें) में लेवल संवेदकों (यू एस एल एस व एच डी एस) के संविरचन,समुच्चयन, परीक्षण एवं इनकी सुपुर्दगी के लिए रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति।

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR FABRICATION, ASSEMBLY, TESTING AND DELIVERY OF LEVEL SENSORS (USLS & HDS) AT LPSC (B).

निर्धारित तिथियाँ / SCHEDULE

ईओआई की तिथि / **EoI Date**	: **08.04.2024**
नियत तिथि / **Due Date**	: **07.05.2024**

सभी प्रस्ताव मोहरबंद वलफाफे में "क्रय व भंडार अधिकारी प्रशासन बिल्डिंग, द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र, बेंगलूरु - 560008" को पंजीकृत डाकध्कूरियरध्सीधी सुपुर्दगी के माध्यम से बोली प्रस्तुतीकरण की नियत तिथि या उससे पहले प्रस्तुत किए जाएँ।

All Proposals in sealed cover should be sent to "Purchase and Stores Officer, Administration Building, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Bengaluru - 560008" through registered post / courier / direct delivery on or before bid submission due date.

हस्ताक्षरित / Signed
क्रय व भंडार अधिकारी / Purchase & Stores Officer

LOST

I, **ABHISHEK T,** S/o B P Thyagaraj, Aged about 22 years, residing at No.2925, Aattiguppe, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, Banga lore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560040. Have completed my ICSC 10th Standard in the year of 2017 at **BISHOP Cotton Boy's School,** No.15, Residency Road, Shanta nagar, Ashok Nagar, Banga lore- 560025, Candidate ID: 6487070. Have lost my ICSC 10th Standard Marks Card while travelling and had lodged police compliant on **03/04/2024 Report No.1001553/2024.** Request the concer ned authority to issue the duplicates of above said Marks Card to me.

Sd/-
Advocate & Notary,
Mohammed Hussain. K
Dated 03-04-2024, Bangalore.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: ECN-07-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Shifting/Modification of Existing 66KV UG Cable 1&2 D/C Hebbal 'C' Station, Infringing the Proposed Construction of New Diversion Road for Re-Development Work of Bengaluru Cantonment Railway Station.	Rs. 1,89,03,960.62

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 19-04-2024**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer (Construction)
PUB/11/AAD/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Bengaluru Cantonment**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Sri. YALAMANCHILI NIKHIL,** Aged about 28 year S/o Sri. Y. Upendra, R/at : H. No. 6-2-68/54 & 55, Manik Prabhu Temple Road, Amarkhed Layout, Raichur, Today come over to Bangalore. he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property. My client has irretrievably lost near Residence of No.585, NTI Layout, 2nd Phase, Bangalore, the Original BDA Katha Vide No.BDA/RO/N/45/19-20, My client Sri. Yalamanchili Nikhil has lodged a Police Complaint for lost Article U/S 155 CrPC Lost Report No.0991882/2024, on 27-03-2024 under acknowledgment issued by the Bengaluru City. If any person/s found the said BDA Khatha please come forward with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice and hand over the same to the under signed, will be suitably rewarded. If any one finds these documents, please return it to the undersigned party. If anyone has already carried out any transaction is in the process of being carried out using the missing documents, kindly inform the undersigned party in writing at the below mentioned address within 7 days from this paper publication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **RESIDENTIAL SITE** demarcated as **Site No.45**, in the layout approved by the Bangalore Development Authority in several survey numbers in Kodigehalli, Kothihosahalli and Byatarayanapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, named as: **"RAJIVGANDHI NAGAR"**, N.T.I. Layout, II Phase, Bangalore - 92, the said sit is carved out of survey No.27/2, 26/4 and 80/1 of Kothihosahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, vide BDA Katha No. BDA/RO/N/45/19-20, Dated : 6-5-2019 and Measuring: East to West: **40 Feet,** North to South: **30 Feet,** total area **1200 Square Feet,** or 133.33 Square Yards, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and Vacant Site bounded as follows :- **On the East by :** Site No. 42, **On the West by :** Road, **On the North by :** Site No.46, **On the South by :** Site No.44

MADHUSUDHANAREDDY G.R, Advocate
No. 21/A, 'E' Block, Sahakaranagar,
Bangalore-560 092. Phone No: 9980940428
Bangalore, Dated : 06-03-2024

IN THE COURT OF THE XXIV ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-6)

P & Sc. No. 137/2024

BETWEEN: 1. MRS. USHA BALAJI RAO, AGED ABOUT 78 YEARS, W/o Late BALAJI RAO JAGANNATH RAO DOVETON @ D.J. BALAJI, RESIDING AT NO FLAT NO 103, "ADARSH RESIDENCY, 47TH CROSS, 8TH BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, BENGALURU - 560 070.

2. MRS. ARATI SRIKANT NAGARAJ, AGED ABOUT 54 YEARS, D/O. LATE LATE BALAJI RAO JAGANNATH RAO DOVETON @ D.J. BALAJI, RESIDING AT NO FLAT NO 103, "ADARSH RESIDENCY, 47TH CROSS, 8TH BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, BENGALURU - 560 070. **3. MR. ABHIJIT BALAJI RAO DOVETON,** AGED ABOUT 52 YEARS, S/O. LATE LATE BALAJI RAO JAGANNATH RAO DOVETON @D.J.BALAJI, RESIDENT OF FLAT NO.205, "MANJU MAHAL", 35 PALI HILL ROAD, NEAR MONISHA JAISINGH SHOWROOM, BANDRA WEST, MUMBAI - 400 050.

(2) & (3) REPRESENTED BY THEIR MOTHER THE 1ST PETITIONER HEREIN WHO IS ALSO THEIR DULY CONSTITUTED GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY HOLDER... **PETITIONERS**

AND: -NIL- ... RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named Petitioner has made a Petition to this Court (CCH No.6) under Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act praying for issue of Probate of the Will dated 07-09-2016 for getting the schedule assets transferred to the name of the petitioners. The 1st petitioner is the wife, 2nd and 3rd petitioners are children of the deceased Sri. Balaji Rao Jagannath Rao Doveton @ D.J. Balaji. The schedule mentioned below belongs to Sri. Balaji Rao Jagannath Rao Doveton @ D.J.Balaji, who expired on 28-11-2023 Interested Parties are hereby warned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **29-05-2024** at 11:00 clock in forenoon to Show Cause against the Petition failing wherein, the matter will be heard and determined exparte.

SCHEDULE

ITEM NO.1: (Bequeathed in favour of the 1st Petitioner and after her life time to the 2nd Petitioner) All that piece and parcel of the Flat No.D-103, First Floor, Municipal No.179, in "ADARSH RESIDENCY", 47th Cross, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560070 with a Super Built Up Area of 2155 Square Feet along with proportionate Undivided Share, Right, Title and Interest along with One Car parking Space in the basement.

ITEM NO.2: (Bequeathed in favour of the 3rd Petitioner) 1/3rd Share of Right, Title and Interest in Use and Occupation and possession of the apartment bearing No.B-205 II Floor, with 1540 Super built up area, "MANJU MAHAL", along with 5 Shares Vide Share Certificate No.170 with Distinctive Nos. 206 to 210 OF Chetak Co-operative Housing Society Limited constructed over Property bearing CTS No. 1629-A-1/10 (part) situated at No.35, Pali Hill Road, Bandra, Mumbai- 400 050 along with undivided share, right, title and interest in the land and two open car parking slots Nos. 4 & 30 admeasuring 150 Square Feet each.

ITEM NO.3: (Bequeathed in favour of the 1st Petitioner for her life & Subsequently to petitioners (2) & (3) 1/6th Undivided Share in all that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.17 (old No. 09) situated at Singarchari Street, Triplicane Chennai - 600 005 built on total extent of land admeasuring 1812 Square Feet comprising land of 1597 Square Feet in Survey No.1802/2 in Mylapore-Triplicane Taluk, Chennai.

ITEM NO.4: Few Investments in Mutual funds of ICICI Prudential (Folio No.75491, SBI (Folio No.14063024 and DSP Block Rock (Folio No.30483) The Value of the aforesaid assets is Rs. 2,00,00,000/- (Rupees Two Crores Only) approximately.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 02-04-2024.

By order of the court, Senior Sheristadar, City civil court, Bangalore.

SRIJA .K, Advocates
No.65, 13th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar,
Bangalore-560 011.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has entered into an Agreement of Sale to purchase the schedule property from its Owner P.Jayakumar, s/o N.Purushotham Nair who has represented that he has clear and marketable title to the same.

Any person/s having any right, title or interest in the schedule property must notify the undersigned with documentary proof thereof within 10 days of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that no person has any right, title or interest in the schedule property and on the basis that the schedule property is unencumbered, our clients shall proceed with the transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.28, portion of Assessment No.21/3, Old Katha No.21/3, situated at Abbigere Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli,Bangalore North Taluk, Now Property No.28, BBMP Katha No.230, BBMP Ward No. 12, Bengaluru, measuring East to West : 30 Feet and North to South : 40 Feet, measuring 1200 sq ft, along with R.C.C. Building, and bounded:-
East by :: Road,
Westby :: Property belongs to Munihanumakka
North by :: Kereguddadahalli Road
South by :: Site No.27.

Sd/-. **B.R.Ravikumar,** Advocate
1092, 4th main road, M.C.layout,
Vijayanagar, Bangalore-40 Mob: 9448447944
Date: 08.04.2024, Place: Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that, our Sri.Vijay.J S/o Sri. Late Sri. N.T. Janakiram, Aged about 51 years residing at No.316, 5th Main, Venkatarangapuram, Palace Guttahalli Bangalore-560003 is the Owner and title holder of the property bearing Site No.1907, in the layout formed by The Karnataka State Judicial Department Employees House Building Co-Operative Society Limited Bangalore in different Survey numbers at Allalsandra Chikkabommasandra and Jakkur Plantation Village, Yelahanka Hobli Bangalore North Taluk Bangalore, which is more fully described in Schedule herein and herein after referred to as Schedule-property.

It is further represented that, our Clients has misplaced or lost the original Allotment Letter, Possession Certificate issued by The Karnataka State Judicial Department Employees House Building Co-Operative Society Limited Bangalore, Original Khata Patra issued by BDA and the original Sale Deed dated 24.04.1996 and registered as Document No.567/1996-97, in Book-1, Volume 713 at page 61 to 66 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore.

Our Clients has represented that he is unable to trace the same in spite of his best efforts and hence he has also lodged a complaint with the Bangalore City Police on 02.02.2022 regarding the loss of the above said title deeds. If anyone finds the originals of the said document, they are requested to deliver the same to the undersigned and if any person were to deal with the said original title deeds in respect to the below mentioned Schedule property other than the aforesaid person, such transactions will not bind our client or the below mentioned Schedule property and such persons will be doing so at their own risk and cost.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL that piece and parcel of the immovable property being Residential Site bearing No.1907 in the layout in several Survey numbers at Allalsandra Chikkabommasandra and Jakkur Plantation Village, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore formed by the The Karnataka State Judicial Department Employees House Building Co-Operative Society Limited, Bangalore as per plan approved by Bangalore Development Authority measuring East to West 35 Feet and North to South 60 Feet in all measuring 2100 Square Feet with with all rights, appurtenance what so ever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the : - East By : Site No.1908, West By : Site No.1906, North By : Road, South By : Property No.1901

Surendra .T Bsc. LL.B, Advocate
No. 32, "SUPRADEEP", 5th Cross,
Ashrama Colony, AECS Layout,
Sanjayanagar, RMV 2nd Stage,
Bangalore-560 094. Mobile: 94486 94715
E-mail: vakil.suri@gmail.com
vakil_suri@yahoo.co.in

Form No. 18

Notice for appearance in Appeals Order 41 Rule 14 CPC, and Rules 1, 2, 4 and 11 of Chapter IV Karnataka High Court Rules

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

MFA No. 6482/2023 (FC-DB)

Appellant : 1. MOHIT KUMARASWAMY, Aged 31 years, S/o. Kumaraswamy, A-022, Beary's Lake Side Habitat, No. 18, Shanthivana Kodigehalli, Bengaluru - 560 092.
By Sri. S. Venkateswaran, Adv.,

Vs

Respondents : 1. SPRUTHI SUNIL SURPUR, Aged 31 years, D/o Sunil Surpur, No. 191/1 Shubhprada, 1st Cross, Kurabarahalli Road, Bengaluru - 560 086.

Also Presently at No.7, Allegheny Centre, 510, Pittsburgh PA 15212 (USA)

Rep. By GP Holder Sri. Sunil S. Surpur, # 191/1, Shubhaprada, 1st Cross, Kurubarahalli Road, Mahalakshmipuram, Bengaluru-560086.

Appeal From the Judgement/Award/Order passed on 12/09/2023 in M.C. Number 6594/2018 on the file of the II ADDL. PRINCIPAL JUDGE, FAMILY COURT, BENGALURU.

To : Respondent No. 1

1. SPRUTHI SUNIL SURPUR, Aged 31 years, D/o Sunil Surpur, No. 191/1 Shubhprada, 1st Cross, Kurabarahalli Road, Bengaluru-560 086.

Also Presently at No.7, Allegheny Centre, 510, Pittsburgh PA 15212 (USA)

Rep. By GP Holder Sri. Sunil S. Surpur, # 191/1, Shubhaprada, 1st Cross, Kurubarahalli Road, Mahalakshmipuram, Bengaluru-560086.

Whereas the aforementioned Appeal preferred has been registered by this Court.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorised by law to act for you in this case **on 29/05/2024 at 10.30 a.m.,** in case you intend to contest the appeal, if you fail so to appear, the appeal will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on 03RD DAY OF APRIL 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my clients intend to purchase the Schedule Property from **SRI. VINOD A. M. CHARLES,** S/o Mr. Benedict Charles, R/at No.1, I J Cottage VST Road, Opp. Banaswadi Railway Station, Lingarajapuram, St. Thomas Town, Bangalore -560084.

Any person having any objection regarding the said sale transaction, may contact the undersigned advocate with relevant documents within 10 days from the date of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that there is no objection of any nature and my client will complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.14, BBMP Khatha No.573/36-1-14, Khatha No.423/A, formed in Sy.No.36/1, Situated at Hennur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, now within the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike in Ward No.24, measuring East to West 43 Feet and North to South 35 Feet, totally measuring 1505 Sq.ft., and bounded on the
East by : Private Property,
West by : Site No.13,
North by : Private Property,
South by : Road.

Sd/- **K.R.Bharadwaj & Associates,**
Advocates,
No.30, 1st Floor, Above Medplus,
Sukh Sagar Cross Road, 3rd Cross,
3rd Main K.K. Halli, Bangalore -560084.
Ph. 9844011141
E-mail: krblawassociates@gmail.com

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H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.

Phone 26677552, 26679041

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

The Borrower **Sri N.Deepak, S/o Sri Narayan Murthy, No.01, Near Post Office, Hulimavu, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-560 072. Surety: Smt. Hema Murthy.** The debt due to Bank as on **03.04.2024** of **Rs.43,68,324/-** + Interest & miscellaneous expenses. Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"on 13.05.2024, Monday at 11.00 am.** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/(s) and Guarantor/(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, **Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.1014, earlier house list No.332/A, situated at Hulimav Village, Begur Hobli, Post Office, BBMP Ward No.193, Arekere, Bangalore. Measuring East to West: 22 ft., and North to South: 29 ft., totally measuring 638 sq.ft., and bounded by East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Ganesha Temple & South by: Property No.331.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount Rs.5,16,700/- equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price Rs.51,67,000/- being cautioned deposit by means of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of M/s.The Grain Merchant's Co.Operative Bank Ltd., The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.
(3) The Property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price
(4) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refund without interest.
(5) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
(6) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues/taxes/charges/property tax/electricity charges/water charges/conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
(7) The authorized officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all if the tender or/bid/ offer and/or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the auction sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
(8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
(9) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. at his/her expenses at the address mentioned in the schedule.
(10) The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" AND "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"** the intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title,ownership,statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

Sd/-
Place: Bangalore **Authorised Officer,**
Date: 03.04.2024 The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd.,

₹17,116 CR fundraise by InvITs, REITs surges multi-fold in FY24 on promising returns.

Investors should be cautious of margin trading as costs go up

Given the rising cost, one has to remain cautious as margin trade funding comes with inherent risk, and one should trim margin leverage, overall exposure

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

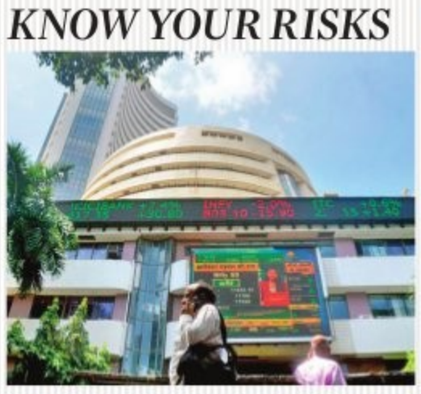
THE second-best rally that the market notched up in the year to March 2024 in the past five fiscals—with both the indices ratcheting up 25% on-year gains—also has set another all-time record in a not-so-popular market segment—the margin trade funding (MTF) book of brokerages.

The MTF book of brokerages made an astronomical growth from ₹7,100 crore in early February 2020 to a tad over ₹ 57,100 crore this March. For the Sensex, FY21 was the best rally zooming 68%, making the investors richer by tens of trillions with the market cap now sniffing at the $5-trillion-mark. From the pandemic lows of March-April 2020, the indices have rallied a full 187% by this March. The MTF books of the brokerage industry have more than doubled from around ₹ 26,000 crore in March 2023 to over ₹57,100 crore this March, or have made an astronomical growth from a meagre ₹7,100 crore in February 2020, according to Icra Ratings.

Higher margin funding costs

Such a massive jump in a short span of four years has both brokers as well as investors laughing their way to their banks. Borrowers, who are the investors here, were being charged only 12-14% as monthly interest on the amount they borrowed from their brokerages as margin funding so far. But that's history now. Brokers will not just walk faster but run to their banks because the pricing has been raised by more than a third of percentage point from this month to 18-20%.

For investors though, given the looming poll-related uncertainties and the resultant volatility in the market, along with the double whammy of higher interest outgoes, their profit-making jaunt will be a lot longer and tedious. Though no brokerage has come out on record officially disclosing their new pricing, many admit to doing so already or are in the process of doing so, whacking it up to 18-20%.



KNOW YOUR RISKS

- The margin percentage is mostly based on a dynamic calculation method
- An investor has to electronically pledge the shares bought on margin funding the next day
- He/she has to maintain the required margin, which also includes the daily interest one owes to the brokerage
- An investor will be better served by being cautious

Industry insiders ascribe two reasons for this. First, the reported regulatory tightening wherein the Reserve Bank has nudged non-banking lenders, who are the primary source of MTF, to raise their funding cost to brokers as it fears a bubble in the making due to the MTF-led over leverage. As a result, the borrowing cost for brokerages have gone up by 200-300 bps to 11% or more of late.

The second trigger is that non-banks on their own have raised the cost of such funds fearing rising volatility in a highly vile poll season as part of their own internal risk tightening, which in turn was spawned by the recent RBI ban on JM Financial and IIFL from lending against shares.

About margin trade funding

For the uninitiated, margin trade funding is a facility wherein an investor pays only 25-35%— at the upper end and the lower end this can be as high 5-8x of own funds—of the value of the stock one buys and the rest is paid for by brokerage for a monthly interest of 12-14%.

This means that brokerage can allow you to own 65% or up to 800% more of the same stock over your own investment. Brokerages either have their own NBFCs or borrow from banks or other sources even from debt market instruments to help investors this way. This 30-35% own fund demand is normally from bank-led full-service brokerages such as HDFC Securities, which is the leader in this market with a loan book of close to ₹10,000 crore, ICICI and Kotak among others, but standalone players like IIFL, Edelweiss, JM, Motilal etc offer much higher leverage to the tune of 5-8x your own fund on a day when the market is on a song. This margin percentage made available to a customer is mostly based on a dynamic calculation method depending on the type of stock one buys—large caps/index stocks like those constituting the Sensex and the Nifty or mid and small caps. While HDFC offers the longest MTF facility running into 275 trading days, which means more than a calendar year of credit and thus you can own the stocks for those many days—no wonder why it leads the market in outstanding loan—others mostly offer only up to 30 days or even less. On the other hand, discount brokers like Zerodha or Upstox and their other peers aren't into the MTF street. All that an investor has to do is to electronically pledge the shares bought on margin funding the next day or when you get an email from the depositories (CDSL or NSDL) failing which your brokerage has the legal powers to square off the shares which is done by the respective risk departments by around 2.30 pm.

The next step is to maintain the required margin, which also includes the daily interest you owe to your brokerage, in the bank account linked to your demat account failing which again the risk will square off the position by pre-noon trade session. But the whole exercise is going to pinch the debt funded investor now as the rates have been raised massively.

Bank brokers, supported by their competitiveness in money market borrowings both in terms of size of borrowings as well as rates, are the dominant players in the MTF space with close to 65% of the volume, according to this agency.

Given the rising cost coupled with market volatility due to the poll outcome uncertainties, an investor will be better served by being cautious and trimming her margin leverage and the overall market exposure.

MONEY MATTERS

KNOW THE CONNECTION: ELECTIONS, DATA & MONEY

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

IN a world of too much information and data, you can get overwhelmed more often than you like. For savings and investing, making sense of using knowledge is the best way forward.

As India heads into a general election, you may wonder about the impact on your money. With a lot of information thrown at you by political parties, you may want to cut the clutter and focus on simplicity. For that purpose, you need tools that could allow you to establish a correlation between public information available to you and the election outcome. Your savings and investments need a government focusing on economic growth without creating inflation. A government that manages income and expenditure efficiently.

The Reserve Bank of India announced the credit policy last week and released a lot of information in the form of policy statement documents. You can focus on a few data sets that could give you some sense of the ground situation.

The inflation scenario

Politicians do not like high inflation ahead of an election. However, a study published in 2015 by the IDFC Institute highlighted that there was no direct correlation between inflation and election outcome. Governments were re-elected despite high inflation or voted out despite low inflation. Yet, it is not a factor that can be ignored. RBI's forward-looking surveys capture the general expectation of household price rises.

If households feel the heat of price rise, it would be reflected in the survey. In April 2014, when RBI started the system of bi-monthly credit policy, it published a set of forward-looking surveys. The household inflation expectation survey then suggested that 94.1% of households felt prices would increase in the quarter and a year ahead. In May 2014, India had a change of government.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

In April 2019, the survey suggested that 74.8% of households believed prices would increase over the quarter or a year. India went to polls that year, and the incumbent government was re-elected. In the survey published last week, the percentage of households believing that prices would increase is slightly up to 76.5%.

The consumer confidence

The RBI compiles a consumer confidence index. The perception index explains the consumer's current situation compared to the year-ago period and the perception of the year ahead. It gives a sense of people's spending based on their income and employment situation. A number over 100 indicates optimism, and a number below 100 indicates pessimism. In March 2014, the current situation index stood at 99.9, while the future expectation index was at 114.9. In March 2019, the current situation index surged to optimism at 104.6, and the future expectation index was at 133.4.

Cut to March 2024, the current situation index fell to 98.4, lower than in March 2014. After the pandemic, the index fell sharply into the pessimism zone and has struggled to move towards the optimism zone. The one-year ahead index stood at 125.2, indicating a lower confidence level than in 2019 but higher than in 2014.

Financial markets

If you look at the trend in the financial markets, volatility rises during elections. There is a sense of calm on the street. The India VIX index represents the volatility in the share prices. In April 2014 and April 2019, it was much higher than it is currently. Similarly, the bond markets do not point to significant risk, with 10-year government bond yields much lower than those ahead of the previous two elections.

What does it mean

During an election, you must focus on the announcements in election manifestos that sound inflationary. You need a government that concentrates more on keeping inflation in check. If inflation is not an election issue for you as a voter, you must make it. Experts say that voting in India is driven by identity politics more than economic conditions. However, you must focus on your well-being while voting. Your financial security needs your government to have strong finances. If the government policies are inflationary, they may bring short-term relief through cash or tax breaks. However, in the long run, it would bring more inflation and erode the value of your money.

MONEY-WISE

FINANCIAL DEPENDENCE ACROSS GENERATIONS

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

IN the mid-1980s, the children who passed out of top institutes got astronomical salaries compared to their parents. I heard one aunt tell her daughter 'your father got this salary only when he was 38..you have got it at 24' – when she got her MBA placement.

Cut to 2024, many of the parents have done extremely well and find that their children are not able to swing it big on their own. So right from getting them seats in 'good' colleges (where you can buy seats instead of qualifying for them), to spending lakhs in cricket coaching, parents will do anything to pitch (and swing) for their kids.

Some kids feel like a failure if they can't maintain their parents' lifestyle standards (parent is 54 and kid is 24!!) right at the beginning of their careers. Parents are willing to subsidise everything –housing, vacations, entertainment, -like a crutch!

I see parents supporting their kids endlessly in terms of money and effort (especially child-care) and I also see the case where parents are very demanding when they stay with their kids. Parents expect the kids to look after them, take them around –to the doctor, to many miscellaneous social functions, etc. When you are 72, remember your 44 years old son (daughter) has a demanding job, kids, and an active social life too! I know one parent who spends a lot of his son's money –and it became embarrassing when he had to limit their expenses with harsh words.

Most of the financial issues between parents and children happen simply because of poor communication at home. We are unwilling to talk about money at home.

We need such dialogues…

'You will study in a college where you get admission on your own merit, not in a college where I can buy you a seat'

'Dad, when I said my CTC is ₹12 lakh it does not mean I get ₹1 lakh a month in my bank account'

Sounds simple? Most people can't (won't) tell their families how much money they earn, spend, save and/or invest. This means the people dependent on you don't know what they should be doing with the money. If your spouse, parents and kids get mixed signals, they will ASSUME. That is the worst thing that can happen. One kid who was taken for a vacation to Disneyland in his class 9 does not understand why his parents can't afford his Ivy League education costing about US $300k. Truth is his parents can't afford it.

When the children are growing up, tell them that they are welcome back to the parental home at any time if they need to come back. However, put a price to it – subsidised rent, food, (not zero), and that the kids have to chip in with tasks and errands. Your 33-year-old son and 32-year-old daughter-in-law don't need to get everything free, do they? – this is a real-life case where the son lost his job and his four-month pregnant wife was advised bed rest.

What would have you done as a parent? I have no clue what I would have done.

Sebi mulls direct reporting of alternative investment funds' PPM changes

PTI @ New Delhi

TO facilitate ease of doing business, Sebi has proposed that certain changes in the private placement memorandum of alternative investment funds can be submitted directly to the regulator rather than through a merchant banker.

Also, the proposed move would rationalise the cost of compliance for alternative investment funds (AIFs). In its draft circular, Sebi said that certain changes carried out in private placement memorandum (PPM) are not required to be filed through merchant bankers and can be filed directly to the regulator. These included changes in the size of the fund, information related to affiliates, commitment period, key investment team of the manager and key management personnel of AIF, and reduction in expense or fee or cost charged to fund/investors. Additionally, changes in contact details of AIF, sponsor, manager, trustee or custodian, risk factors and track records of investment manager, among others, are not required to be filed through a merchant banker. Sebi has sought public comments on the proposal by April 26. At present, any change in the terms of PPM is required to be submitted to Sebi through a merchant banker, along with a due diligence certificate from the merchant banker in a specified format. Such changes in the terms of PPM and in the documents of the fund/scheme are required to be intimated to investors and Sebi on a consolidated basis within one month of the end of each financial year. The regulator also recommended that large-value funds for accredited investors should be exempted from the requirement of intimating any changes in the terms of PPM through a merchant banker.

Start-up funding: Health, climatetech to attract more investments in H2 2024

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

AFTER facing funding headwinds, the start-up ecosystem has started attracting funds again, and according to Venture capitalists (VCs), the second half of this year will attract more investments, especially in healthtech and climatetech start-ups.

Market intelligence platform Tracxn co-founder Neha Singh recently said even with the slowdown seen in March quarter, we anticipate the bounce back quickly. The report by Tracxn said that Retail, FinTech, and Enterprise Applications were the top-performing sectors in Q1 2024.

Pankajj Ghode, Managing Director at Pushttie Venture Capital said Q2 2024 brings forth a fundraising scenario ripe with innovation and resilience.

"Investors are showing renewed interest in sectors poised for exponential growth. Fintech remains a darling of the investment community, as start-ups leveraging technology to revolutionise banking, payments, and financial inclusion attract substantial funding.He added that healthcare technology start-ups are experiencing a surge in investor confidence. Sustainability and climate tech start-ups are gaining traction, reflecting a growing awareness of environmental issues and the urgent need for eco-friendly solutions. Investors are also increasingly drawn to start-ups addressing climate change, renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture.

"Looking ahead, the start-up trend in India over the next six months is poised to be characterized by a continued focus on innovation, digital transformation, and resilience," Ghode added. Recently, healthtech start-up Ultrahuman raised $35 million in a Series B funding round.

A study by CIEL HR reveals a significant 74% employment surge in healthtech over the last two years. With a projected employment growth of 15-20%, the sector is expected to witness a surge in demand for skilled professionals across various domains.

Ankur Mittal, co-founder, IPV said, "Fundraising scenarios for Indian start-ups should start seeing positive trends over the next 6-9 months as growth / late-stage funding picks momentum. As momentum starts coming back, businesses that were able to build strong business and achieve growth over the last 12 months of funding winter should attract investors."

However, Ravi Teja Gupta, Founder, Guptaji Invests says VCs and private equity (PE) firms are increasingly targeting traditional businesses in untapped markets rather than solely focusing on innovative start-ups.

Voltas posts highest-ever air conditioner sale of two million units in FY24

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AIR conditioner brand Voltas on Sunday said it has achieved over 2 million AC units in FY24, the highest ever sale of ACs by any brand in a financial year in India. It recorded a volume growth of 35%, and the performance was attributed to a consistent demand for cooling products during the year.

Pradeep Bakshi, MD & CEO, of Voltas Limited, said, "We are delighted to achieve this extraordinary milestone of achieving 2 million ACs in FY 2023 – 24, which is an industry first. Almost 70 years ago, Tata Sons and Volkart Brothers came together to start Voltas in India. When we look back all these years, we get a sense of gratification. We believe that our wide presence, focus on the emerging retail channels, excellent distribution network, strongest brand equity and attractive consumer offers, have helped us to achieve this significant milestone."

Voltas has been maintaining the No. 1 position, and the brand is now gearing up to further expand its retail and distribution network, to cater to its ever-growing product portfolio, to get an additional edge over competition. The company also registered a significant growth in volume in other cooling products including air cooler and commercial refrigeration products.

Voltas Beko, the Home Appliances brand, also registered a volume growth of 52% in Q4 FY24; and also achieved the milestone of close to 2 million Home Appliances (Refrigerators & Washing Machines) in FY24. Overall, 5 million consumer products got sold to customers across the country by Voltas in FY24. Founded in India in 1954, Voltas Limited is part of the Tata Group, and in addition to Air Conditioners, Voltas also has Air Coolers and Air Purifiers.

Athletic Bilbao win Copa del Rey

Athletic Bilbao ended a 40-year wait to win the Copa del Rey by beating Real Mallorca 4-2 on penalties on Saturday following a 1-1 draw after extra time. The Basque side lifted the trophy for the 24th time, behind only 31-time winners Barcelona, as they edged underdogs Mallorca at La Cartuja stadium in Seville.

From Sharma to Bumrah, everyone played their part as Mumbai secure first victory of 2024

The economics behind MI win

Delhi's Prithvi Shaw getting bowled out by Mumbai's Jasprit Bumrah (not in pic) | AP

KALYANI MANGALE @Chennai

THERE is this concept of the Division of Labour in economics. Simply put, division of labour combines specialization and the partition of a complex production task into several, or many, sub-tasks. It lies at the core of modern economic thinking. Which is why, the first chapter of The Wealth of Nations, written by the father of modern economics Adam Smith, explains this concept in detail. That's enough economics for the day, but the core of what the Scotsman said in 1776 still feels true about the Mumbai Indians of 2024.

Yes, they are an entity. One of the most successful ones in the IPL and they were in desperate need of producing 'goods'. The season did not start particularly well for them under their new captain. In their first match of the season, they looked clueless against Gujarat Titans. Sunrisers Hyderabad were ruthless in their pursuit of the highest-ever team score. Playing in front of the home crowd in Wankhede could have been a relief, but Trent Boult and Riyan Parag spoiled it. The part of the discourse was that, 'well, that is how Mumbai function'. However, this time around, it felt like that logic was falling flat on its face. Mumbai were desperately in need of a win.

So when Rohit Sharma and Ishan Kishan walked into bat at Wankhede, the hope was to see the old Mumbai Indians. The side that believed in giving space for every individual to play their role to their fullest capacity and building the team's success on that. Bringing the old MI back who believed in the 'division of labour'. That is exactly what happened on Sunday and it started with the former captain Rohit. His strength has always been to give a brisk start to whichever side he is playing for. That's what he did. Two boundaries against Ishant Sharma, followed by two gorgeous looking pull shots. With Kishan by his side, the opening partnership of 80 gave more than enough for the rest to build on.

Even when Suryakumar Yadav could not make any impact, everyone else kept doing their tasks. Kishan batted with a strike rate of 182 and never let the run rate fall below 10. With wickets falling around him and still seven overs to go, captain Hardik Pandya chose consolidation over high hitting, knowing the capabilities of Tim David, who was at the other end, and Romario Shepherd, who was in waiting. At this part of the innings, the aim was to feed David with the strike, so he could do what he does best — hitting boundaries. Again, that is exactly what David did.

Once Pandya fell after 39 off 33 and 13 balls remaining in the innings, Shepherd came in to provide the finishing touches. Shepherd's task was to see ball and hit ball. 32 runs in the final over bowled by Anrich Nortje did exactly that. Just like Sharma, Kishan and David before him, Shepherd played his part. Productivity maximisation achieved as MI posted 234/5.

However, the match was not over and the bowling attack had to make sure they kept things under control. That is where Jasprit Bumrah came in. On the pitch where every bowler who bowled more than two overs gave away at least five boundaries, he was the true point of difference. His 11 dot balls and economy of 5.5 runs per over said enough. His efforts that stood between Delhi and chasing down the total of 235. And if it wasn't enough, his toe-crushing yorker to dismiss Shaw was like watching a Jacques-Louis David painting coming to life. Whatever hopes Delhi had in Tristan Stubbs (71 n.o) taking them over the line were slashed when Bumrah gave away just eight runs from the 17th over, to push the required run rate past 25 for the last two. Bumrah did what Bumrah does. And MI got the win they were searching for, beating DC by 29 runs. **Brief scores:** MI 234/5 in 20 ovs (Rohit 49, David 45 n.o, Shepherd 39 n.o) **bt** DC 205/8 in 20 ovs (Stubbs 71 n.o, Shaw 66; Bumrah 2/22).

CSK LOOK TO BOUNCE BACK

With two consecutive losses, Chennai Super Kings will be hoping to get back to winning ways at home as they take on Kolkata Knight Riders. A look...

Eyes on Mitchell

Daryl Mitchell was signed by CSK for a high price because of his ability to be versatile and hit spin, something that was evident during the World Cup. However, his start to IPL this season has not been easy. He has struggled to keep the tempo going and often tried to hit his way out, but it has not worked. Can he fix the issue and bring in some valuable contributions in the middle-order?

Narine vs Chennai

CSK is one of the few teams who have managed to keep Sunil Narine quiet in the past. In 12 innings, Narine averages 9.6 with a strike rate of 141.17. When you filter it down to games in Chennai, Narine has managed 18 runs in two innings with a high score of 12. What will happen in Monday?

Rachin vs Starc

Rachin Ravindra is back in Chennai after two low scores and would be itching to regain his touch. If the pitch has the pace for it, he might be able to take down KKR bowlers, but the biggest challenge among them would be Mitchell Starc. Although the latter is yet to make a mark, the pacer can never be ruled out in white-ball cricket.

Chennai Super Kings vs Kolkata Knight Riders, Chennai — Live on Star Sports and Jio Cinema, 7.30 PM

Super Kings lock horns with unbeaten Knights at home

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

CSK skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad during a practice session on Sunday | P RAVIKUMAR

ANOTHER high-octane clash is on the cards as Chennai Super Kings take on Kolkata Knight Riders at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Monday. Defending champions Chennai are coming into the game after suffering back-to-back defeats while KKR are unbeaten in the tournament.

CSK, in the last game against Hyderabad, were outplayed in all the departments. First, they did not put enough runs on the board, then they had a bad power play with the ball. What did not help their cause is the absence of Mustafizur Rahman and Matheesha Pathirana. However, the good news for them is Rahman, who had headed to Bangladesh to sort out some visa issues, is expected to land in Chennai on Sunday night and will be available for selection on Monday. Pathirana, meanwhile, is still being assessed. "Obviously, it's a long tournament and we wanted to be conservative about our decision making around him. So whether he'll play the next game (KKR) or not will be determined by the physios. He's not overly concerned. It's more a case of it's a long tournament," said Eric Simons, bowling consultant of CSK.

The bigger concern, meanwhile, would be the way CSK batted in the powerplay in their last two games. Head coach Stephen Fleming admitted as much after the loss against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Friday. "The first five or six overs were the best to bat, and the aggressive way in which they played showed that. So, being able to get a wicket first over and maybe shut down the second, it could have been a competitive score, but maybe 15 short," he explained.

Therefore, skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and Rachin Ravindra will have to up their game in the powerplay. Gaikwad is striking at 118.91, and the team will need a lot more from him. CSK's leading run-scorer Shivam Dube, who has tallied 148 runs, has an impressive strike rate of 160.86. So if Sameer Rizvi, Moeen Ali get into the groove, CSK can post a good total.

Their bowling attack is likely to be the same as the last match. Shardul Thakur could be drafted into the playing XI in place of Mukesh Choudhary, but the likes of Deepak Chahar, Tushar Deshpande, Moeen, Ravindra Jadeja will have their task cut out to contain Sunil Narine and Co.

KKR, along with Rajasthan Royals, remain unbeaten in the tournament. They have played as a unit and have excelled in all the departments. But CSK is a different team when they play at home. This should be a cause of concern for Shreyas Iyer and Co. "Well, I think we like to believe so (have the bowling to contain CSK). I think every team in this competition, if you ask them this question, they're going to say they have the best attack and we believe the same. I feel every cricketer or every player who's part of this IPL ecosystem is a cricketer who accomplished something in their career and has the skill and potential. So I feel our team definitely has the potential. I think on any given day, against any opposition, whether that be CSK or anyone, I think it is about how you can realise that potential. So I think we have an experienced attack," said Abhishek Nayar, KKR assistant coach.

Thakur fifer seals 33-run victory for Super Giants

Lucknow Super Giants' Yash Thakur took 5/30 vs Gujarat Titans on Sunday | AFP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

HALF-CENTURY from Marcus Stoinis (58) and fifer (5/30) from Yash Thakur helped Lucknow Super Giants beat Gujarat Titans by 33 runs on Sunday.

Chasing 164, Gujarat did get off to a good start with B Sai Sudharsan hitting the crucial boundaries. However, skipper Shubman Gill's poor run continued as he fell for 19 runs from 21 balls to Thakur. M Siddharth, once again, proved valuable in the powerplay, sending down three overs for just 20 runs. Building on the pressure, Ravi Bishnoi took a stunning return catch to dismiss Kane Williamson and Krunal Pandya struck twice to remove Sai Sudharsan (31) and BR Sharath (2). With Krunal removing Darshan Nalkande shortly after, GT were all but out of the contest — 80/5 in 12.1 overs. From thereon, it was only a matter of time as Thakur ran through the lower order to dismiss GT for 130. The pacer finished with figures of 5/30 in 3.5 overs.

Opting to bat first, LSG lost Quinton de Kock early. Umesh Yadav rushed de Kock with a sharp bouncer and the South African was back in the pavilion. In his next over, he removed Devdutt Padikkal. Soon, captain KL Rahul found himself doing the rescue act along with Stoinis. Rahul turned the fortunes around with consecutive boundaries off Spencer Johnson in the fourth over. Umesh, meanwhile, kept it tidy at the other end, and Gill brought back Rashid Khan to complete the powerplay. Once Noor Ahmed started from the other end, Rashid and he were applying the brakes in the run rate. With the boundaries not coming fluently, Lucknow strutted their way to 74/2 at the halfway mark. The pressure eventually caught up as Rahul fell while trying to take on Nalkande for 33 runs from 31 balls. Meanwhile, Stoinis took Nalkande to cleaners with a tonk into the stands. In doing so, Stoinis also brought up his half-century in 40 balls. He would hit one more six off Nalkande before getting out. Ayush Badoni smashed 20 off 11 balls before getting out to Rashid. Nicholas Pooran (32 n.o) provided the late boost as LSG finished with 163/5. **Brief scores:** LSG 163/5 in 20 ovs (Stoinis 58, Rahul 33, Pooran 32 n.o; Umesh 2/22) bt GT 130 all out in 18.5 ovs (Sai Sudharsan 31; Thakur 5/30).

CANDIDATES CHESS

Pragg, Vaishali pull off winning moves

AGENCIES @Toronto

INDIAN Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa came up with a spectacular game to down compatriot Vidit Gujrathi in the third round of the Candidates Chess tournament here.

It turned out to be a satisfying day for the only siblings to make to the Candidates ever as R Vaishali also scored her first victory in the event at the expense of Nurgyul Salimova of Bulgaria in what was also the lone decisive game in the Women's section. In the men's section, D Gukesh tried to make some headways but could not really dent the solid defences of Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia, while Frenchman Firouza Alireza's extra pawn came to a naught against top seed Fabiano Caruana of United States.

The other American Hikaru Nakamura, however, had no difficulty in getting an easy draw as black against Nijat Abasov of Azerbaijan. In the women section, Koneru Humpy played out an easy draw with white against Zhongyi Tan, Tinjie Lei of China signed peace with Aleksandra Goryachkina of Russia, while the other Russian Kateryna Lagno split the point with Anna Muzychuk of Ukraine. With 11 rounds still to come in both eight-players double round-robin tournament, Caruana, Gukesh and Nepomniachtchi share the lead on two points apiece in the men's section.

They are now followed by Gujrathi and Praggnanandhaa on 1.5 points each. Nakamura, Alireza and Abasov complete the line up another half point behind. In the women's event, Zhongyi Tan (2 points) remained a half point clear of nearest rival Goryachkina with Humpy, Vaishali, Lagno on their toes with 1.5 points each. Lei, Muzychuk and Salimova share the sixth spot with one point each in their kitty. Praggnanandhaa chose an accelerated Schielmann defence out of a Ruy Lopez that is seldom seen in top GM games. In the end, Gujrathi was left to play 11 moves in about five minutes with the position not favouring him and as is often the case, the ticking away clock took its toll on the Indian. Praggnandhaa quickly landed himself with a winning rook and pawns endgame and there was no hopes left soon for Gujrathi. The game lasted 45 moves.

RESULTS

(Rd 3, Indians unless specified): Vidit Gujrathi (1.5) lost to R Praggnanandhaa (1.5); D Gukesh (2) drew with Ian Nepomniachtchi (FID, 2); Nijat Abasov (AZE, 1) drew with Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 1); Firouza Alireza (FRA, 1) drew with Fabiano Caruana (USA, 2).

Women: R Vaishali (1.5) beat Nurgyul Salimova (BUL, 1); Koneru Humpy (1.5) drew with Zhongyi Tan (CHN, 2.5); Tingjie Lei (CHN, 1) drew with Aleksandra Goryachkina (FID, 2); Anna Muzychuk (UKR, 1) drew with Kateryna Lagno (FID, 1.5).

Wasteful Liverpool held by Man Utd

AGENCIES @Manchester

LIVERPOOL'S Premier League title challenge was dented by spectacular goals from Bruno Fernandes and Kobbie Mainoo, who snatched a 2-2 draw for Manchester United on Sunday.

The visitors dominated the majority of the game but needed a Mohamed Salah penalty six minutes from time to avoid a second defeat at Old Trafford in the space of three weeks. The draw leaves Liverpool behind Premier League leaders Arsenal on goal difference and just one point ahead of Manchester City with seven games remaining in the tightest of title races.

Should the Reds fail to mark Jurgen Klopp' final season in charge by winning a 20th English top-flight title, to match United's record, they will look back on this day and wonder how two points got away.

For Liverpool, it was a similar story to their thrilling 4-3 FA Cup quarterfinal defeat as they wasted a series of chances to extend their lead and ended up getting hit by the United sucker punch.

The home side did have the ball in the net after just 90 seconds but Alejandro Garnacho had ran offside well before receiving Fernandes' pass. In another match, Chelsea were held 2-2 by Sheffield United. **Results:** Sheffield United **2-2** Chelsea; Manchester United **2-2** Liverpool.

East Bengal overcome Bengaluru FC in ISL

AGENCIES @Kolkata

Cleiton Silva scored the decisive goal for East Bengal FC on Sunday | ISL

EAST BENGAL FC beat Bengaluru FC by 2-1 in the Indian Super League (ISL) at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata on Sunday. A goal in either halves by Saul Crespo and Cleiton Silva ensured that the penalty by Bengaluru FC skipper Sunil Chhetri was cancelled to help the Red & Gold Brigade break into the sixth spot in the standings.

East Bengal FC have accumulated 24 points from 21 matches as a consequence of this result, helping them edge past Chennaiyin FC (7th) and NorthEast United FC (8th) in the table. Bengaluru FC, with 22 points from 21 games, are now precariously placed in regards to playoffs qualification.

Chennaiyin FC, who have played a game less. are set to clash with NorthEast United FC on April 9. If Chennaiyin draw that game, it's over for BFC. Even if the Blues win their last match against the Mohun Bagan (April 11), the two teams will be tied on 25 points. Given that Chennaiyin have a better head-to-head record against Bengaluru FC, they will beat the ISL 2018-19 champions for a place in the playoffs.

EXPRESS READ

Nagal takes big step in Monte Carlo

MONTE CARLO: Sumit Nagal became the first Indian to enter the Monte Carlo Masters singles main draw in 42 years, beating Facundo Diaz Acosta of Argentina in a three-setter in the final qualifying round here. Nagal, ranked 95th in the world, defeated his World No 55 rival 7-5, 2-6, 6-2. In the first round of the main draw, he will meet World No 35 Matteo Arnaldi of Italy in the clay court tournament. Nagal was following the footsteps of the legendary Ramesh Krishnan, who had made it to the main draw in 1982.

India show fight but lose again

PERTH: The Indian men's hockey team dished out a much-improved show as compared to its previous game but it still lost 2-4 to Australia in the second Test of the five-match series here on Sunday. After the 1-5 drubbing they received on Saturday, the Indians were able to play in equal terms against their formidable opponents in the first and second quarters of the match. In fact, India were 2-1 ahead at half time, but some sloppy defending in the third quarter cost them dearly as the hosts pumped in three goals to register their second straight win.

Verstappen clinches Japanese GP in Red Bull one-two

AGENCIES @Suzuka

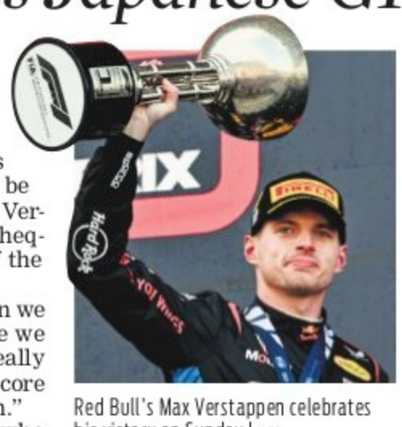
MAX Verstappen said Red Bull must capitalise on their early season dominance after romping to victory in Sunday's Japanese Grand Prix ahead of teammate Sergio Perez.

The triple world champion claimed his third win in the four races so far this year and on this evidence the Dutchman and Red Bull will take some stopping once again.

Verstappen failed to finish in Australia a fortnight ago because of a brake issue but starting from pole he controlled the race at Suzuka from start to finish. "I know there will be tracks coming up that might not be so favourable for us," said Verstappen, who took the chequered flag 12.5sec ahead of the Mexican Perez.

"But then of course when we do get to the tracks where we can be quick, we have to really take advantage of it and score maximum points as a team."

Ferrari's Carlos Sainz, who triumphed in Melbourne, was third in dry, sunny conditions at Suzuka. Verstappen has taken an early stranglehold on the world championship on 77 points, with Perez on 64 and Sainz's Ferrari teammate Charles Leclerc on 59.



Red Bull's Max Verstappen celebrates his victory on Sunday | AFP

Mercedes boss Toto Wolff told reporters after the race that "no one is going to catch Max this year". "Basically the rest of the season now is the best of the rest, that's the fact," said Wolff. Verstappen said this week that Suzuka was one of his favourite circuits and he has now won the Japanese Grand Prix three times in a row. "Of course Melbourne felt like a bit of a hiccup," he said.

"But what we did today was what we want to do, and that's what we aim to do every single weekend."

Japanese GP results (top 5): 1. Max Verstappen (NED/Red Bull) 307 km in 1 hr 54:23.566sec, 2. Sergio Perez (MEX/Red Bull) +12.535, 3. Carlos Sainz (ESP/Ferrari) +20.866, 4. Charles Leclerc (MON/Ferrari) +26.522, 5. Lando Norris (GBR/McLaren) +29.700.

The Indian Army has a vast number of divisions and units and it can be overwhelming to learn the various ways of entry into the designated sectors. **Lovely Majumdar** has put together a cheat sheet for aspirants on how to be a part of the Army through Union Public Service Commission as well as other examinations conducted by the Ministry of Defence

THE Indian Army is vast, and varied, with multiple options for entry, for both men and women. While the exam conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is considered to be a popular way to get into the National Defence Academy (NDA) and the Naval Academy (NA), this article comprehensively explores the various sectors available for aspiring individuals.

We also scrutinise the entry points for students, graduates and postgraduates seeking to serve as commissioned military personnel in the Indian Army for both men and women, including opportunities through the UPSC exam...

Indian Army Units and divisions: What is the Indian Army?

COMBAT ARMS

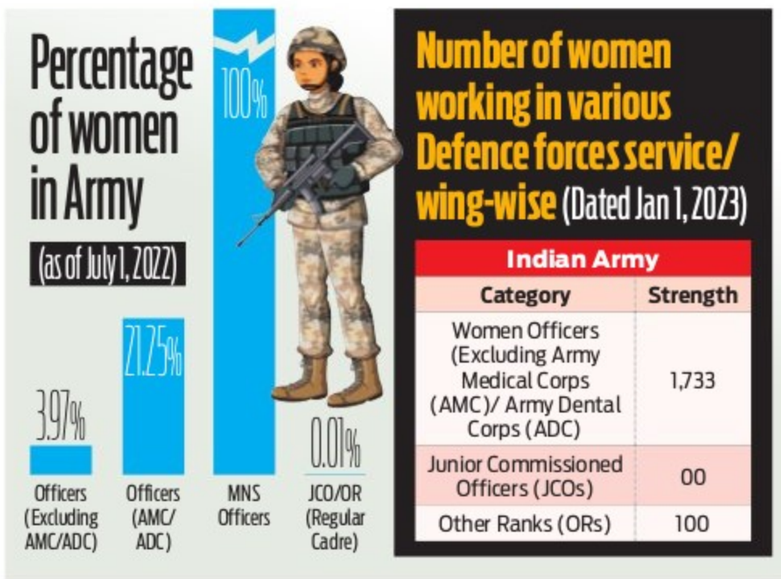
- **Infantry:** Ground troops engaging in close-contact combat.
- **The Armoured Corp:** A specialised military institution conducting armoured warfare.
- **The Regiment of Artillery:** The combat force delivering significant firepower in all ground operations.
- **The Mechanised Infantry:** Infantry units outfitted with armoured personnel carriers (APCs) or infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) for both transportation and combat purposes.
- **Army Aviation Corps:** The Army Aviation Corps carries out combat search and rescue (CSAR), artillery transportation, combat logistics support, military prisoner transport, and medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) operations during wartime and in response to natural disasters.
- **Corps of Army Air Defence (AAD):** The AAD safeguards the airspace of India from enemy aircraft and missiles, with particular focus on altitudes below 5,000 feet.

COMBAT SUPPORT ARMS

- **Army Ordnance Corps:** The logistics role of the Army Ordnance Corps encompasses the processes of supplying and acquiring all necessary materials to establish and sustain a proficient and capable fighting force.
- **Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME):** The Corps is tasked with a range of responsibilities concerning the design, development, testing, inspection, and refurbishment of weapon systems and equipment.
- **Army Supply Corps:** The ASC primarily handles the provisioning, acquisition, and distribution of supplies including food rations, fresh and dry consumables, FOL (Fuels, Oils, Lubricants), hygiene products, and hospital comfort items to the Army, Air Force, and when necessary, to the Navy and other paramilitary forces.
- **Corps of Signals:** The corps provides vital communication assistance to field formations, facilitating effective coordination and command control of units during operations.
- **Army Medical Corps:** Offers medical services to all Army personnel, both active duty and retired, as well as their families.
- **Corps of Engineers:** A combat support branch that delivers combat engineering assistance, constructs infrastructure for Armed Forces and other defence entities, ensures connectivity along borders, and aids civil authorities during natural disasters.

SUPPORTING ARMS

- **Intelligence Corps:** It undertakes counter-intelligence operations aimed at identifying and neutralising adversary intelligence threats within the Army. It offers counsel to defence policy-makers regarding political-military affairs and offers perspectives on organising, training, and equipping forces during times of crisis.
- **Army Dental Corps:** It provides dental services to all Army personnel, serving and veterans, along with their families.
- **Corps of Military Police:** The CMP undergoes training to manage prisoners of war and oversee traffic regulation, along with handling essential telecommunication equipment such as telephone exchanges.
- **Army Education Corps:** The AEC provides education at the SSC level, training in foreign and regional languages, communication skills, Army Cadet College cadre classes, certificate education, map reading, cyber-tech training, and various other subjects.
- **Military Nursing Service:** They engage in diverse tasks, such as delivering medical assistance in military hospitals, joining disaster relief missions, and supporting public health campaigns.
- **Territorial Army:** Its current mandate includes aiding Civil Administration during natural disasters, ensuring the continuity of essential services during crisis impacting communities, and offering units to the Regular Army as needed for national security purposes.
- **Pioneer Corps:** The Pioneer Corps supplies disciplined and well-trained personnel when civilian labour is unavailable or its utilisation is deemed unsuitable due to security concerns.
- **Judge Advocate General's Department:** It provides legal help to the military in all aspects, in particular advising the presiding officers of courts-martial on military law.
- **Army Postal Service Corps:** It offers postal, remittance, savings, and insurance services to personnel of the Army, Indian Navy, Air Force, and paramilitary forces.
- **Defence Security Corps:** The role of the Defence Security Corps is to ensure security for cantonments, military facilities, and other defence production sites, including those of the Air Force and Navy.
- **Remount and Veterinary Corps:** It is responsible for breeding, rearing and training of all animals used in the Army.



Number of women working in various Defence forces service/wing-wise (Dated Jan 1, 2023)

Indian Army	
Category	Strength
Women Officers (Excluding Army Medical Corps (AMC)/ Army Dental Corps (ADC)	1,733
Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs)	00
Other Ranks (ORs)	100

MEDICAL AND DENTAL BRANCH

Service Corps	Strength
Army Medical Corps (AMC)	1,212
Army Dental Corps (ADC)	168
Military Nursing Service (MNS)	3,841

RECENT MAJOR INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN

- Permanent Commission being granted to Women Officers (WOs) in 12 arms and services
- As many as 19 cadets, including 10 for the Indian Army, are joining the academy every six months.
- The Army has also created opportunities for WOs to serve as pilots in the Corps of Army Aviation
- WOs are also being considered for Colonel (select grades) ranks and are being given command appointments.

GENDER RATIO IN ARMED FORCES (2021)

Indian Army

12,18,036	6,807	0.56%
Men	Women	Percentage of women

WOMEN ARE COMMISSIONED INTO THESE STREAMS

1. Corps of Engineers
2. Corps of Signals
3. Army Air Defence
4. Army Service Corps
5. Army Ordnance Corps
6. Corp of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers
7. Army Aviation Corps
8. Intelligence Corps
9. Judge Advocate General Branch
10. Army Education Corps
11. Armed Forces Medical Services as Doctors and Military Nurses which is a women-only entry

ENTRY SCHEMES

How to get into the Indian Army?

FOR INTERMEDIATE (10+2)

NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY (NDA)

- **Conducted by:** Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) ● **Branch:** Army/Air Force/Navy
- **Notification:** Released during June & December
- **Training:** NDA, Khadakwasla, Pune
- **Duration:** 3 years at NDA and 1 year at IMA, Dehradun

TECHNICAL ENTRY SCHEME (TES)

- **Conducted by:** DG Rtg AG's branch IHQ of MOD of Indian Army ● **Branch -** Army/Air Force/Navy
- **Notification:** Released during May/June and October/November
- **Training:** ● **Phase I -** 1 year Pre-commissioning Training at OTA, Gaya & 3 years at CME Pune/MCTE Dr Ambedkar Nagar/MCEME Secunderabad
- **Phase II -** 1 year post-commission training at CME Pune/MCTE Dr Ambedkar Nagar/MCEME Secunderabad ● **Duration:** 5 years

FOR GRADUATE (UPSC)

INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY (IMA)

- **Conducted by:** UPSC under the aegis of CDSE
- **Branch:** Army ● **Notification:** Released during July and November ● **Training:** IMA, Dehradun
- **Duration:** 1.5 years

OFFICERS TRAINING ACADEMY (NON TECHNICAL MEN)

- **Conducted by:** UPSC under the aegis of CDSE
- **Branch:** Army ● **Notification:** Released during July and November ● **Training:** OTA, Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

FOR GRADUATE (NON UPSC)

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (SSC) (JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL)

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting/AG Branch of Indian Army
- **Branch:** Army (Law/Legal)
- **Notification:** Released during July/August and January/February
- **Training:** OTA, Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (SSC) (NATIONAL CADET CORPS)

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting / AG Branch of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during June and December
- **Training:** OTA, Chennai ● **Duration:** 49 weeks

FOR GRADUATE TECHNICAL ENTRIES

TECHNICAL GRADUATE COURSE (ENGINEERS)

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting / AG Branch of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during March/April and September/October ● **Training:** IMA, Dehradun
- **Duration:** 1 year

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (SSC) (TECHNICAL)

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting/ AG Branch of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during June/July and December/January ● **Training:** OTA, Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

SPECIAL ENTRY SCHEMES IN ARMY

ARMY CADET COLLEGE (ACC)

The Army Cadet College Wing provides training for enlisted personnel of Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBOR) from the regular Army, Navy, and Air Force, preparing them for commissioning as officers in the Indian Army. They ought to have a minimum service of two years.

- **Conducted by:** MP Directorate / AGs Br through Units of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during March and August
- **Training:** ACC Wing, IMA, Dehradun ● **Duration:** 4 years (3 years in ACC Wing and 1 year at IMA)

PERMANENT COMMISSION (SPECIAL LIST)

This scheme aims to grant Permanent Commission to Short Service Commissioned Officers (SSCOs) upon completion of their initial contractual service period. Personnel ought to have served in the Army for a minimum of 10 years.

- **Conducted by:** MP Directorate/AGs Br through Units of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during April and July
- **Training:** AEC Centre & College, Pachmarhi and IMA, Dehradun ● **Duration:** 8 weeks at AEC Centre & College, Pachmarhi & 4 weeks at IMA

SPECIAL COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (SCO)

This initiative is tailored for individuals who lack formal officer qualifications but possess specialised skills and expertise. Personnel ought to have a minimum service of 5 years.

- **Conducted by:** MP Directorate/AGs Br through Units of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released during April and July
- **Training:** OTA Gaya ● **Duration:** 8 weeks at AEC Centre & College, Pachmarhi & 1 year at OTA, Gaya

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

TERRITORIAL ARMY (TA)

TA comprises part-time volunteers who serve as a military reserve force, offering support services to the Indian Army. Members are required to undergo two months of mandatory paid service every year.

entry point

TWO UNITS

1. **Ecological TA:** Involved with the State Forest Department for activities such as afforestation, contributing to environmental preservation.
2. **Departmental TA:** Involved with the oil sector units such as Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Indian Oil Corporation.

- **Conducted by:** TA Directorate of Indian Army
- **Branch:** Army ● **Notification:** Released in November ● **Training:** TA Battalion/IMA

DURATION: ● **Recruit Training:** 30 days under TA Battalion ● **Annual Training Camp:** Two calendar months in each training year
● **Post Commission Training:** 3 months in IMA within two years of commissioning.

REMOUNT VETERINARY CORPS (RVC)

The RVC is responsible for the breeding, raising, and training of equines (horses) and canines for army units

- **Conducted by:** RVC Directorate of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army ● **Notification:** Released in Nov/Dec ● **Training:** RVC, Meerut
- **Duration:** 3 months

ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (NON-TECHNICAL)

AMC (NT) officers are individuals without medical qualifications (non-doctors). Their responsibilities encompass overseeing training, medical supplies, equipment, and related tasks.

- **Conducted by:** Line Directorate of Indian Army
- **Branch:** Army **Notification:** Notified by AMC Directorate **Training:** AMC Centre & College, Lucknow **Duration:** 3 months

WOMEN IN ARMY
A CLOSER LOOK

IN conventional thinking, the notion of women in the military often clashes, discouraging many from pursuing this profession. However, with the aim to dispel this myth, EdexLive presents a comprehensive list of entry schemes and statistics in order to shed light on the representation of women in the Armed Forces of India

ENTRY SCHEMES FOR WOMEN

Induction of women into the officer cadre started from 1992

NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY (NDA)

- **Conducted by:** Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) ● **Branch:** Army/Air Force/Navy ● **Notification:** Released during June and Dec ● **Training:** NDA, Khadakwasla, Pune ● **Duration:** 3 years at NDA AND 1 year at IMA, Dehradun

GRADUATE (UPSC)

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN (SSCW NON-TECH)

- **Conducted by:** UPSC under CDSE
- **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released in July and November ● **Training:** OTA Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

GRADUATE (NON UPSC)

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN (NCC)

1. **NCC (SPL) ENTRY WOMEN**

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting/AG of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released in June and December ● **Training:** OTA Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

fem factor

2. **GRADUATE (JAG)**

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting/AG of Indian Army
- **Branch:** Army (Legal)
- **Notification:** Released in July/August and January/February ● **Training:** OTA Chennai ● **Duration:** 49 weeks

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (TECHNICAL)

- **Conducted by:** Directorate General Recruiting/AG of Indian Army ● **Branch:** Army
- **Notification:** Released in June/July and December/January
- **Training:** OTA Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks

MILITARY NURSING SERVICE (MNS)

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Should have passed MSc (Nursing) / PB B Sc (Nursing)/B Sc(Nursing) from INC recognised University
2. A registered Nurse and Midwife from a State Nursing Council

FOR SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

Candidates selected for grant of SSC in the MNS will serve for five years extendable to a total tenure of fourteen (5+5+4) years as Military Nursing Service (Regular) Officers of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force).

FOR PERMANENT COMMISSION

SSC Officers of the MNS will be eligible for consideration for permanent commission in accordance with the prevailing rules, which may be amended periodically. They will undergo an interview conducted by a Selection Board. Granting of Permanent Commission will be based on vacancies' availability.

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DAY'S DIARY

Discovery launched

In 1993, NASA launched space shuttle Discovery to begin STS-56. The first launch attempt was halted at T-11 seconds by orbiter's computers

ARTIFICIAL ENVIRONMENT

Lifting off at 1.29 am EDT, Discovery created an artificial sunrise across KSC, as the mission marked the eighth nocturnal launch of the shuttle programme

LONGEST ORBITER

Discovery flew 39 times from 1984 through 2011 — more missions than any of its sister ships — spending altogether 365 days in space

REMEMBRANCE

Discovery has earned a place of honour in the collection of national treasures preserved by the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

A curated guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

Cherished recipes, passed down with love, are the heart of Ramadan feasts. Bengalureans share their families' recipes, adapted to suit modern palates

Tradition with a tasty twist

MONIKA MONALISA

EID is right around the corner and Muslim families in the city have started preparations for the feast. An integral part of the celebration is food with every household having their own specialties. A few Bengalureans share dishes that have been passed on from generations and are a must on the celebration menu.

MUTTON PEPPER

It might not be a usual dish on an Eid menu in Bengaluru but for Fathima Shaikh, a Mangalurean Muslim, mutton pepper is a staple in her household. The 60-year-old learnt the dish from her mother, which she has passed on to her daughters who have given it their own twist. "The dish is made for breakfast on the Saturday morning after the last Friday of Ramadan. It is paired with rice roti or idlis," she says.

CHEESY KEBABS

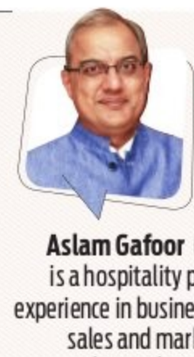
It's his ammi's chicken samosa and chicken cheesy kebabs that Zafir Syed looks forward to during Ramadan. "These are simple dishes which are flavour bombs," says Syed, who makes sure he is with his mother in Mumbai a few days before Eid to enjoy the delicacies of iftar.

ANDE KI MITHAI

On the long list of sweet dishes for Eid, Sameena Ahmed's ande ki mithai is something that everyone in her household looks forward to. The dish is mostly seen at weddings, but in Ahmed's home, it's an Eid staple. "It's a baked dessert recipe that my mother and grandmother prepared. They used to use the charcoal-baking style, with pressed charcoal on the top of the vessel since they didn't have access to a modern oven," says Ahmed, a home chef.

SHEER KHURMA

It's impossible to imagine Eid without sheer khurma, and in fashion designer Husna Sait's home, it's no different. But what makes her sweet dish different is the style of preparation. "On Eid morning, when people return from the mosque, they break their fast with dessert – in my house that's usually sheer khurma. The one I make is my mother-in-law's recipe," says Sait.



GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**

The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first-prize winner will receive a voucher worth ₹3,000 for a one-month subscription from Suay – Asian Cafe**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS 1) Naengmyeon 2) Sima 3) Caipirinha

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT 1) Reema S 2) M K 3) Lata Siddheshwar

CITY READ

CMR University's international conference concludes

The School of Economics and Commerce at CMR University, Bengaluru, conducted an international conference on 'Recent Advances In The Field Of Economics, Finance, Management & Technology (ICREFMT-2024)'. Held over two days, at the university's OMBR Campus, this event gathered renowned personalities from various sectors, enriching the discussions with insights and experiences. The conference showcased the expertise of over 244 delegates from India and abroad, with more than 150 full-length research papers submitted by paper presenters from both national and international spheres, participating in the event both online and offline.

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/280324/006766

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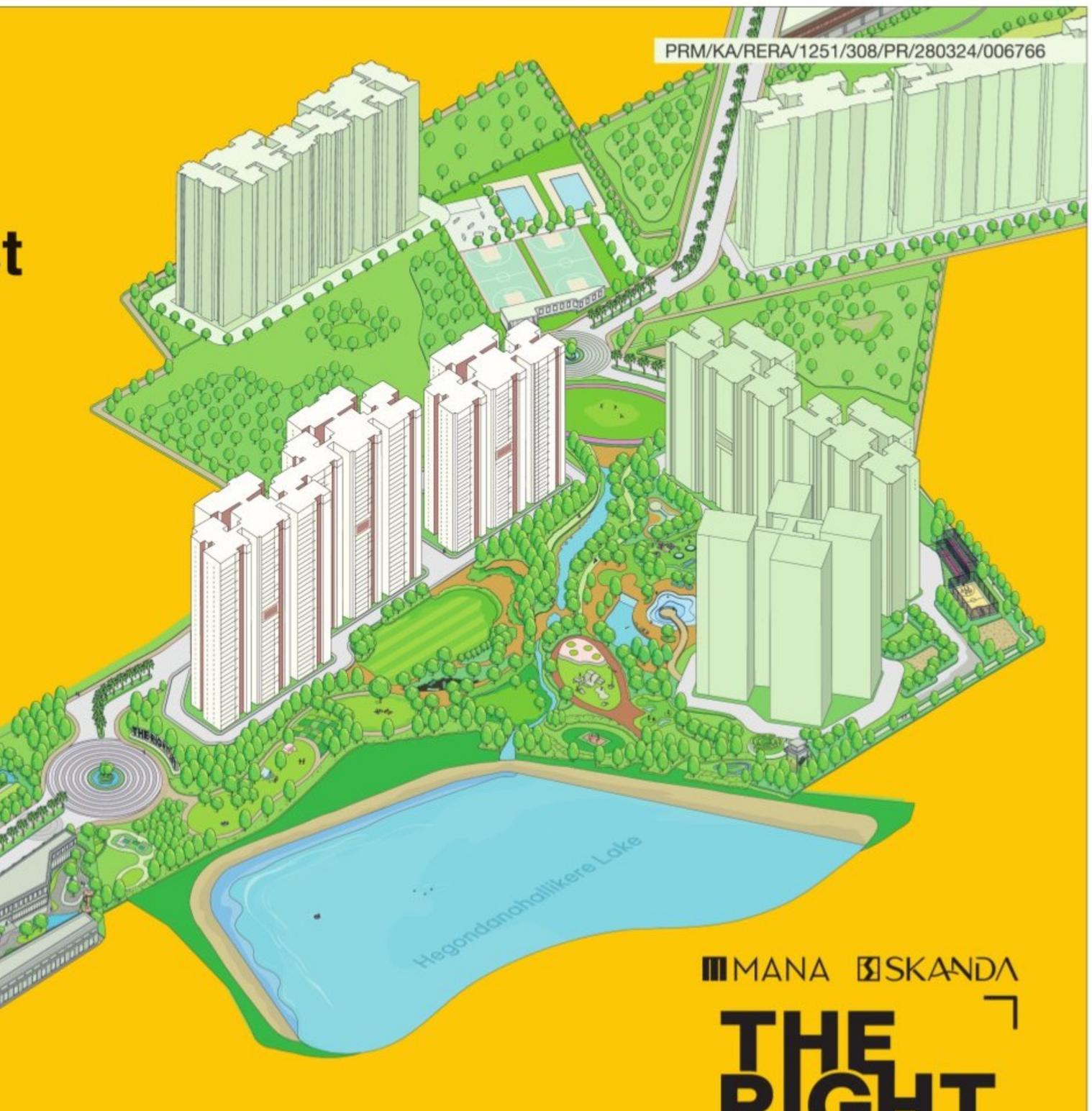

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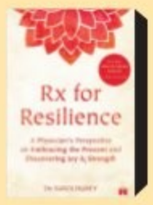
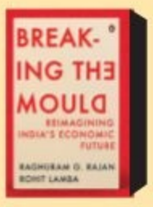
BOOK NOOK



Rx For Resilience
By Dr Saroj Dubey

This book is a physician's perspective on embracing the present and discovering joy and strength despite facing unexpected challenges or treading the corridors of high-pressure careers. A roadmap to joy, fortitude, self-discovery, and the gift of presence.

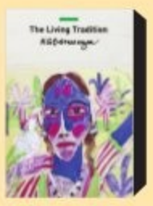


Breaking the Mould
By Raghuram Rajan, Rohit Lamba

Where is India headed? Is it going forward, or is it floundering, unable to provide jobs for the millions joining the labour force? What should it do to secure a better future? The book tackles these critical questions that revolve around India's growth and progress in the 21st century.

The Matter of Language
By Benjamin Noys

Working between theory and poetry, Noys reconceives notions of alienation and class struggle as essential modes of reading and analysis for our fractured present. Language, as a site of struggle, is intimately bound to the material but is also crucial in formulating and expressing the material and the abstractions that shape the matter.



The Living Tradition
By KG Subramanyan

This is an exploration of the distinctions between Indian and European traditions, the continuities in India's folk traditions, and the attempts of several thinkers and artists to identify an Indian artistic tradition or to strike an independent path for personal expression.

STAR-SPANGLED

Popular Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan, acclaimed filmmaker Karan Johar, and tennis ace Sania Mirza in Bengaluru for Unacademy's Aarambh 2024, an event for IIT JEE and NEET UG aspirants | **NAGARAJA GADEKAL**

Karaoke Evening

Take your loved ones and sing your heart out at this lively evening of karaoke.

WHEN: April 8, 7pm
WHERE: Marcopolo Cafe, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Art attack

Unleash your inner artist and create eye-catching patterns and designs at this alcohol-ink workshop, where you also get to learn about colour theory, mixing techniques, manoeuvering the canvas to form patterns and more.

WHEN: Apr 8, 5pm | **WHERE:** ArtBeat, HSR Layout | **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Pottery Date

Immerse yourself in a romantic and captivating pottery session where you and your partner can jointly discover the world of clay.

WHEN: April 9, 6pm | **WHERE:** Wheel and Pottery Studio, Srinivasa Nagara | **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Circus Night

Experience a blend of nostalgia and modern wonders at Olympian Circus, as you witness top international acrobats, gymnasts, and performers exhibit their extraordinary talents.

WHEN: April 8, 1pm onwards | **WHERE:** ITI Ground, KR Puram | **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Laugh Out Loud

Enjoy an evening of hilarity with Kannada comedian **Sonu Venugopal** as she delivers relatable humour in her latest one-hour show, *Punyakoti*. **WHEN:** April 9, 7.30pm | **WHERE:** JustBLR, Brigade Road | **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Gaming Night

Disconnect from your busy schedule and relax with a board game night, full of camaraderie and friendly rivalry! Suitable for both experienced strategists and casual gamers. **WHEN:** April 8, 7pm | **WHERE:** Small World, ST Bed, Koramangala | **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

QUICKFIX

SHEERA

INGREDIENTS

- **Semolina (rava/sooji):** 1/2 cup
- **Sugar:** 1/3 cup
- **Chopped nuts (cashews, almonds, etc.):** 2 tsp
- **Ghee/butter:** 1/4 cup
- **Cardamom powder:** 1/4 tsp
- **Water:** 1 cup

METHOD

- Heat ghee in a pan over medium flame. Add semolina and roast until golden brown.
- Reduce the heat and slowly add water, stirring it to avoid lumps.
- Simmer for 3-4 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the sheera thickens.
- Add sugar and cardamom powder. Stir until the sugar dissolves.
- Garnish with nuts and serve warm.

Contributed by **Apranji Gupta,** Kashmir

DR VIVEK ARORA

drvivekarora@hotmail.com

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi.

What can I do to strengthen the hind legs of my 13-year-old dog, who is wobbly while walking indoors?

A: The fact that your pet is 13 speaks volumes about your care and affection for him. Yes, it's very disheartening to see them staggering and finding it difficult to get up and walk. Unfortunately, in our modern day, living on polished floors doesn't do much good for the cause.

Before starting an oral medication protocol for your pet, it's important to benchmark his joint health with the help of a few radiographs and blood work, including vitamin D3, to see his organ health and liberty with medication, especially painkillers.

Also, managing his stay more on a carpeted floor will give him a better grip to get up and walk around. Drugs like vitamin E are very helpful in improving strength and overall stamina.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHISH MOSES, aged 45 years, S/o. Moses Mamdapur, residing at Flat No. 201, Skylark Topaz Apartment, 5th Main, Jagadish Nagar, Bangalore – 560 075, hereby declare that I have changed my minor daughters name from AMY KIRTHANA MOSES to AMY KIRTHANA ASHISH and that both the names **AMY KIRTHANA MOSES** and **AMY KIRTHANA ASHISH** belong to the one and the same person vide affidavit dated 05th April 2024 sworn before Notary C V Earappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **JITENDRA KANTILAL JAIN** & **NEETU JITENDRA**, Residing at NO.21/31, SHRI KRISHNA MADHAV RESIDENCY, GOVINDAPPA ROAD, OPPOSITE KUBERAN TAILOR, BASAVANAGUDI, BENGALURU SOUTH, BENGALURU-560004, KARNATAKA, declare that we have changed the name of our Minor Son from **TANAY** (Old Name) to **TANAY JAIN** (New Name), henceforth our Son shall be known and called as **TANAY JAIN** (New Name) for all his personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 06/04/2024 before Notary **N.KANCHIVARADARAJU** at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MUTHTHURAJU B,** S/o Bhujagaiah, age 44 years, R/at No 152, Kenchatavalli Village, near Milk Dairy, Doddagenigere, Hassan Taluk and District-573220, camped at Bengaluru, have changed my name from **MUTHTHURAJU .B** to **BINDHUSIR .B,** before Notary **L. GOPALAKRISHNA,** vide affidavit dated 6-4-2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANJULA,** W/o Ashok Kumar, R/at No. 4, 5th Main, 5th Cross, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru-560 018 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MANJULA SHANTHILAL** to **MANJULA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **MANJULA** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th April 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ANURAG AGARWAL,** S/o Mahabir Prasad Agrawal, R/at N-301, Raj Lake View Apartments, 29th Main, N S Palya, BTM Layout, Bengaluru-560076 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ANURAG AGRAWAL** to **ANURAG AGARWAL,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **ANURAG AGARWAL** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 26th March 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BHAGYAMMA SRINIVASAPURA MUNISWAMAPPA,** resident of No. 285/286, BEL Layout, 6th Block, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru-560097, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BHAGYAMMA** to **BHAGYAMMA SRINIVASAPURA MUNISWAMAPPA,** vide affidavit dated 05.04.2024, sworn to before Puttaramaiah, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NAGINI. R.** W/o Narendra Chary Kuchanapelly R/a #9 A, 1st Floor, Anugraha Layout, Ramanashree Enclave, B.G. Road, Near Shantiniketan Trust School Gate 3, Bilekhalli, Bangalore - 560076 have changed my Name to **NAGINI KUCHANAPELLY** vide affidavit dated: 25.3.2024 sworn before Notary A. Manjula, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LAKMEESHA GANAPATI NAIK,** resident of Salemakki. Allankherangadi Honnavar, Uttara Kannada, Karnataka 581334 have changed my name to **LAXMEESH GANAPATI NAIK** vide Affidavit dated 23.03.2024 sworn before advocate and notary C.N. Balasubramanyam, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SRI SHASHIKIRAN H.M,** S/o Sri. Mariswamy, aged about 42 years, R/at Flat No.F3, "Punam Parijatha" apartment No.948/949, Punam Mahal Road, Kengeri Satellite town, Valagerahalli, Bangalore South taluk, Bangalore - 560060.

I have changed my Son name from **" SHAMITH.S " to " VIVAN ATHARAV.S "** vide Sworn Affidavit dated **02.04.2024** before **B.Chitra** Advocate and Notary Public Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. DEEPA S. SADAR** D/o Somashekar, age 30 years, R/at Door No. 201, 14th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Bhattahalli, K.R. Puram, Bangalore-560 049 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **DEEPA SADAR** to **DEEPA S. SADAR,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **DEEPA S. SADAR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 5-4-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **R. VISHWANATH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ANIL PUROHIT,** S/o Ganpat Singh Rajpurohit, R/at Flat No. 204, 24/1, Maks Fort Residency Fort A Street K R Road, Bengaluru-560 002 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ANIL KUMAR RAJPUROHIT** to **ANIL PUROHIT,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **ANIL PUROHIT** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 06th April 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA N.K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MOHINI JIVAN** and **MOHINI DINESH JIVAN,** W/o Late Dinesh R Jivan, aged about 75 years, R/at Block-D, 112, Mangalaya Residency, Benson Cross Road, Benson Town, Bangalore-560 046 have changed my name to **M D JIVAN,** vide affidavit dated 06-04-2024, before Notary **L. GOPALAKRISHNA,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VIDYASHREE H S,** D/o Sri Shantharaju H R, age 24 years, R/at No. 163, 13th Main Road, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 034 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VIDYASHREE H S** to **VIDYASHREE H RAJ,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **VIDYASHREE H RAJ** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6-4-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. HANUMANTHARAYA** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

We, **SIMRAN,** W/o. YARAB JAN and **YARAB JAN,** S/o. ALIBASHA A, both are residing at: 461, Vinayaka Nagar, Somashekar Layout, Bangalore North Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, do hereby declare that our Daughter name by mistake her name is mentioned as **INAYA MARIYAM** instead of **BI BI MARIYAM** and our Daughter birth certificate her name as **BI BI MARIYAM,** vide affidavit dated 06.04.2024, sworn to before G.R. Ravichandra Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **MOHAMMED RAHMATHULLA**, S/O. Mohammed Inamulla, Residing No. 15/16, 1st Floor, 4th Cross, 22nd Main, Rizwan Masjid Road, Opp Galaxy Tea Corner, KSA Layout, JP Nagar 5th Phase, Bangalore - 560078, I, declare that my Passport wrongly mentioned in my name as **RAHAMATHULLA** instead of **MOHAMMED RAHMATHULLA** and I have decided to continue my name in future as **MOHAMMED RAHMATHULLA** vide affidavit dated 05-04-2024 sworn to before notary Mohammed Hussain .K, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Smt JAYAMANI W/O EX NK 1380006F John Jerald Peter, Aged about 55 years, residing at No. 60, 2nd Main Road, Indira Gandhi Street, Udaya Nagar, Doorvaninagar, Bangalore- 560 016, have changed my name from **JAYAMANI to JAYAMANI JERALD** Vide Affidavit dated 05.04.2024 sworn before Advocate & Notary S. SUBHASHINI, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NAGARAJAN** aged about 43 Years S/o **Venkatesh** R/at No. 318/A, 12th Cross, Near JB Nagar, Government Hospital, Anandapuram, Thippasandra Post, Bangalore-560075 have changed my name to **NAGARAJAN V** vide affidavit dated: 06/04/2024 Before Notary **H.G.Padmanabha Rao** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **JAWAD AHMED** (OLD NAME), S/o. FIYAZ AHMED R (FIYAZ AHMED RAZAK) RESIDING AT: 29/1, SHREYA APARTMENT, 3RD MAIN, 6TH CROSS, ATHMANANDA COLONY, SULTANPALYA, BENGALURU-560032, HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME **JAWAD AHMED** TO NEW NAME **"JAWAAD AHMED"**, VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED 03-04-2024, BEFORE THE NOTARY **SIVAKUMRA M.N**, BENGALURU METROPOLITAN AREA, FOR ALL OFFICIAL AND LEGAL PURPOSES.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. Devaki,** widowed daughter of No. JC-60166L, Ex-Jamadar Late Sampangi Raj, presently residing at # 19/2, S C Garden Main Road, Bharathinagar, Bengaluru Post - S C Garden, Bengaluru, Tehsil & Dist - Bengaluru, Karnataka have changed my name from **DEVAKI** to **S DEVAGI**, vide affidavit dated 03/04/2024 before **L Gopalakrishna,** Advocate and Notary, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MAHALAKSHMI MAHALINGACHARY SANTHOSH,** R/o No. 27, Sri Sai Krupa, Gangamma Temple Street, Behind Marthoma Church, Jalahalli, Bangalore-560 013 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MAHALAKSHMI MAHALINGACHARY** to **MAHALAKSHMI MAHALINGACHARY SANTHOSH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **MAHALAKSHMI MAHALINGACHARY SANTHOSH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th April 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **M. RAJENDRA** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **RAGA RAM,** S/o Nemaji Prajapath, age 44 years, R/at No. 60, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Tata Silk Farm, KR Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560 082 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **RAGA RAM & RAGHURAM PRAJAPATH** are one and the same and refers to me only, my correct name is **RAGA RAM** as in the policy records, vide affidavit dated 6th April 2024, sworn before Advocate & Notary **R. SULAKSHANA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NEHANVE JAIIN**, D/o. Bindhu Saklecha, residing at Parasmani Lifestyle, Flat No. 302, 3rd Floor, No. 87, 4th Main Road, Between 6th and 7th Cross, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RUCCHICA JAINN** to **NEHANVE JAIIN** vide affidavit dated 06.04.2024 sworn to before Mamatha N.K., Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SUPRASAD KESHAVRAO MUTALIK DESAI** - Aadhar No. 4076 3792 1969, S/o Sri. Keshavrao B Mutalik Desai, aged 41 years, residing at Sy. No. 286/2, Flat No. 241, Wing 2, Suguna Upper Crest, Bangarappa Nagar Main Road, Gattigere, R R Nagar, Karnataka - 560 098, state that the 02 names **(SUPRASAD KESHAVRAO MUTALIK DESAI/SUPRASAD MUTALIK DESAI)** are one and the same and belongs to myself only and in future my name should be changed (treated) as **SUPRASAD KESHAVRAO MUTALIK DESAI** in all records. Vide Affidavit dated 06.04.2024 sworn before advocate and notary Deepa .M, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAJPUT KIRANKUNWAR KISHORESINGH, Age 28, Religion:- Hindu, Residing at: A-1 Jay Surya Nagar Society, Nikol Kathwada Road, Nikol, Ahmedabad, Gujarat-382350 I have changed my son's name from **DHRUPAD SINGH RAJPUT to DHRUPAL SINGH RAJPUT** Vide Affidavit dated 04.04.2024 sworn before Notary Rajesh R Parmar, Ahmedabad City, Gujarat State.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, REKHA KALLUR, aged about 39 years, W/o Basavaraj T Kallur, residing at No.2452, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, 10th Main, D Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore-56010. I Do here by declare that my name changed from "**REKHA KALLUR** (Old Name) to **REKHA BASAVARAJ KALLUR** (New Name) vide affidavit dated **05.04.2024** sworn to before the **A.R. Muneer Ahmed M.Com, LL.B.** Notary Public, Government of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VASAVI BHOJRAJ,** W/o Raja Shankar Krishna Murthy, age 36 years, R/at #FF203, SLN Residency, Doddakamannahalli, Near ACES Maruthi Dental College, Hulimavu, Bengaluru-560 076, Karnataka do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VASAVI** to **VASAVI BHOJRAJ,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **VASAVI BHOJRAJ** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 5th April 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SIVAKUMARA .M.N** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MUKESH MANGILAL JAIN,** R/at No. 24, Flat 402, Vasavi Convention Hall, Back Gate, V V Puram, Bengaluru-560 004 have changed my minor son's name from **KUSH MUKESH** to **KUSH MUKESH JAIN,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **KUSH MUKESH JAIN** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th April 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA N.K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VANEETA AGARWAL,** W/o Anurag Agarwal, R/at N-301, Raj Lake View Apartments, 29th Main, N S Palya, BTM Layout, Bengaluru-560076 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VANEETA AGRWAL** to **VANEETA AGARWAL,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **VANEETA AGARWAL** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 30th March 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K,** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LAKSHMI NARASIMHA JAGANNADHA SWAMY KONAGALLA,** S/o. Yogananda Narasimha Swamy Konagalla, residing at #G2, A Block, Colocceo Venture, Old Airport Road, Behind IOCL Petrol Bunk, Bengaluru 560037, have changed my name to **NAGALAKSHMI NARASIMHA JAGANNADHA SWAMY KONAGALLA,** vide Affidavit Dated: 06/04/2024, sworn before Notary **C.V.EARAPPA,** Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHASHIDHAR**, aged about 30 years, S/o. Gurupad Basappa Yendigeri, residing at 303, 3rd Floor, MM Skanadasree Nagappa Layout, Subramanyapura, Uttara halli, Bangalore-560061, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **SHASHIDHAR** to **SHASHIDHAR G YENDIGERI**, vide affidavit dated 05/04/2024 sworn before notary H.G PADMANABHA RAO, Reg. No.12464, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LATHIKA PRIYADARSHINI @ LATHIKA PRIYADARSHINI J,** W/o Sri. Vijaya Shankar N, Aged about 46 Years, Presently R/at No.05, 3rd Cross, Richers Garden, Kalkere, Bengaluru-560043, I declare that the names **LATHIKA PRIYADARSHINI J and LATHIKA PRIYADARSHINI** both the names belongs to me only, one and the same person, vide affidavit dated 05-04-2024, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Veena Hadagali, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. ARATI, W/o. UMESH HIREMATH,** R/at Flat No. B2-605, BDA Apartment, Phase-2, Malagala, Nagarabhavi 8th Block, 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 072, have changed my name from **ARATI MATHAD to Smt. ARATI W/o. UMESH HIREMATH** Vide affidavit dated: 04/04/2024, sworn before Notary L.B.Gade, Dharwad.

Bengaluru Express City

03 | MONDAY | 08.04.2024

UGADI

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Embracing New Beginnings

Relishing the Festivities

SAVOUR THE FLAVOURS

Ugadi, the New Year celebrated in Karnataka, brings joy, traditions, and vibrant Kannada cuisine featuring iconic dishes like *Ugadi Pachadi*.

The Ugadi festival, celebrated as the New Year in South Indian states like Karnataka, is a time of joy, traditions, and delicious food. Kannada cuisine during Ugadi is a vibrant reflection of the rich culinary heritage of the region. From traditional sweets to savoury dishes, Kannada households prepare a variety of special recipes to mark this auspicious occasion.

One of the most iconic dishes prepared during Ugadi is *Ugadi Pachadi*. This unique dish symbolises the diverse experiences of life, incorporating all flavours - sweet, sour, salty, bitter, astringent, and piquant. It is a reminder to embrace life's ups and downs with grace and gratitude.

Much-anticipated Experiences

"Demand for dining experiences typically increases during the festival as people gather to celebrate and enjoy traditional food with family and friends. We capitalise on this opportunity by offering special menus, promotions, and events that cater to the festive spirit while upholding our high standards of quality and service. We anticipate a mix of regular customers and new guests eager to experience our special Ugadi menu," said Himabindu Raghavaraju, Executive Director, Platform 65 Restaurant - Bannerghatta Road, India's largest train-themed restaurant chain with another branch at RR Nagar.

Speaking about the branch in RR Nagar, Mahesh Prattipati, Executive Director Platform 65 added that since Bengaluru is a cosmopolitan city, it inspires them to cater to diverse tastes. "At Platform 65, we have a wide variety of South Indian, North Indian, and Chinese dishes, including regional specialties, ensuring there's something for everyone. Platform 65 mainly focuses on Indian flavours, and our menu is designed to be inclusive, reflecting the city's diverse palate. People from all over India, as well as international visitors, are eager to taste Indian flavours. Our goal is to create a welcoming atmosphere where everyone can come together to enjoy great food and create lasting memories," Mahesh mentioned.

Ugadi Eats

Ugadi is incomplete without indulging in a variety of sweets and desserts. Kannada households prepare *Holige* (also known as *Obbattu*). *Holige* is a sweet flatbread stuffed with a mixture of jaggery and lentils, cooked to perfection in ghee. Another popular sweet dish is *Mysore Pak*, a rich and decadent dessert made from gram flour, ghee, and sugar, boasting a melt-in-your-mouth texture.

On the savoury side, *Maddur Vada* is a must-have snack. *Puliyogare*, a tangy and spicy tamarind rice dish, is another delight. To beat the summer heat, *Panakam* is a refreshing drink. *Mango Panha* (Aam Panha) is popular, made from raw mangoes, sugar, cumin powder, and black salt.

Mamidikayi Pulihora

Bele Obbattu

We have observed that Bengaluru's eating-out and food culture is incredibly diverse and vibrant. Bengaluru's cosmopolitan nature and the influence of various regional cuisines have created a food culture that is diverse and innovative. The city is home to people from all over India and the world, and this is reflected in its restaurants. Restaurants in the city often offer a wide range of dishes, catering to diverse tastes and preferences. They are constantly experimenting with new flavours and ingredients, often blending traditional recipes with modern cooking techniques.

— Himabindu Raghavaraju and Mahesh Prattipati, Executive Directors, Platform 65 Restaurant - Bannerghatta Road & RR Nagar respectively

NON-VEGETARIAN FARE

Hosa Thodaku is a traditional fare for those who prefer non-vegetarian dishes. It's typically enjoyed the day after Ugadi.

Platform65 offers an extensive selection of non-vegetarian delicacies, including Rayalavari Kodi fry, Tangdi kebab, Allam Kodi wings, Cashew Prawns Roast, Tandoori Prawns, Tandoori Full Fish, Garlic Mutton Roast, Andhra Chicken Curry, and Rayalavari Kodi kura.

They also have a special menu for kids featuring a mix of vegetarian and non-vegetarian options such as Butter Garlic Prawns, Honey Finger Chips, Crispy Onion, Cheese Broccoli, and Tandoori Cheese Stuffed Mushroom.

DELIGHTFUL THEME

Platform65's distinctive theme captivates patrons, offering a dining experience unlike any other, complemented by exceptional cuisine. "The allure of travel and discovery inherent in trains infuses our establishment with a sense of adventure. The delightful novelty of toy trains delivering meals to tables adds to the enjoyment for our customers. Moreover, we uphold our thematic coherence across all facets of the restaurant, from staff uniforms to music selection and ambiance, ensuring an immersive journey for our guests. Our primary objective is to craft a lasting and immersive dining adventure through this thematic consistency," — Himabindu Raghavaraju and Mahesh Prattipati

PLATFORM 65 KEEPS THE FLAVOUR JOURNEY CHUGGING

Platform 65, a distinctive train-themed restaurant that promises an unparalleled dining experience, now boasts of two restaurants in the city — one in Bannerghatta Road and another, the recently opened outlet at at Rajarajeshwari Nagar (RR Nagar).

Since its launch in November 2019, Platform 65 has emerged as India's largest train-themed restaurant chain, boasting 11 branches across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka. With a whimsical rail theme, the restaurant ensures your heart races with excitement as your food embarks on a delectable journey to your table. Platform 65 prioritises experiential dining, offering a unique twist where dishes are served on miniature toy trains!

The culinary journey at Platform 65 offers delectable delights from starters to a diverse array of biryanis and an opulent selection of desserts featuring over 500 varieties. Among its culinary masterpieces, biryanis have emerged as a sensation, capturing the hearts and taste buds of their customers. For the vibrant residents of Bengaluru, the opportunity to savour such culinary gems has never been more convenient.

You can indulge in a variety of multi-cuisine delicacies at Platform 65, including Chinese, North Indian, Andhra, and Telangana cuisines. Guests can savour specialties such as the aromatic Palle Patnam, flavorful Pulao, Paya Shorba, Nalli Gosh Biryani, Allam Kodi Wings, timeless Classic Mushroom, and more.

The RR Nagar outlet offers a captivating interior design that pays homage to the rich history of Rajarajeshwari Nagar. With its vintage aesthetic featuring stone walls and carefully curated artifacts, diners are transported to a bygone era, creating a warm and inviting ambiance. The incorporation of fancy chair-car seats and locomotive wall designs adds an extra touch of nostalgia. Each table is adorned with mini railway tracks, and the decor includes station names such as Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Kanpur, and more. One of the highlights is the unique serving style—your favorite dishes arrive at your table on toy trains straight from the restaurant's kitchen!

Platform 65, which has already captivated diners at its Bannerghatta Branch, continues to be a beloved addition to the city's dining landscape, promising patrons an unforgettable experience that combines exquisite cuisine with a hint of nostalgia. With branches in Hyderabad (Kukatpally, Kompally, Kondapur, and Dilsukhnagar), Vijayawada, and Vizag, Platform 65 extends its charm to multiple locations, ensuring culinary delights are accessible to all.

BANNERGHATTA ROAD
4th Floor, 75/B, Windsor F4, Bannerghatta Road, Opposite Christ University, above reliance Digital, Hulimavu, Bengaluru

RR NAGAR
2nd floor, YGR Signature Mall, Double Road, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Opp Rashtrothana Hospital, Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru

DUNIYA DUO
SURI AND VIJAY KUMAR TO JOIN HANDS FOR ANOTHER FILM?

Jayanna Productions will reportedly back this project which will mark the comeback of this iconic duo after 15 years

A SHARADHAA

WE had previously reported that director Suri is teaming up with producers Jayanna and Bogendra for a new film, which is still in the pre-production stage. Now, there's a significant update on this project. According to our source, this upcoming film might reunite the popular *Duniya* film duo -- Director Suri and actor Vijay Kumar. The 2007 film, *Duniya*, which marked the debut directorial of Suri, propelled both the director and Vijay Kumar to fame, earning the latter the title *Duniya* Vijay. The film captivated audiences with its raw and realistic style, bringing a fresh perspective to Kannada cinema.

After *Duniya*, the duo joined hands again for *Junglee* in 2009, which was a commercial hit. Now, 15 years after the release of *Junglee*, the iconic duo are all set to join hands and make a comeback.

Interestingly, Jayanna Productions has previously distributed a few of director Suri's films, including *Duniya*. But this will be the first time the production house will be bankrolling one of the filmmaker's projects. According to our source, Kiss hero Virat may also be on board the film's cast, starring alongside Vijay Kumar. Suri, in a previous interview, expressed his excitement about collaborating with Jayanna Productions, considering it almost like working with a home banner.

Our source further discloses that Suri, along with writers Surendra Nath and Amri is fully focused on the script. The official announcement will be made once they lock in the film's theme and subject. More details regarding the film will be revealed by the makers in due course.

Meanwhile, Vijay Kumar is awaiting the release of his highly anticipated directorial, *Bheema*, which is scheduled for release after the upcoming elections. He's also gearing up to start his next big project with director Jadeshaa K Hampi.

A fresh take on the crime thriller genre

MARIGOLD
Director: Raghavendra Naik
Cast: Diganth, Sangeetha Sringeri, Sudhir Balraj, and Yash Shetty

A SHARADHAA

GLIMPSES of director Raghavendra Naik's *Marigold*, released intermittently, hinted that this is not your usual run-of-the-mill film and that it has something interesting to attract viewers, especially the title, in line with the film's theme, and the prospect of watching Diganth in a different shade. Mostly known for his loverboy image and good comic timing, Diganth appears in *Marigold* as a criminal named Krishna. From the very outset, *Marigold* stands out as anything but ordinary because it is not action-filled but rather more dialogue-oriented, the credit to which should first go to dialogue writer Raghu Niduvalli.

The film, which has long been in the making, revolves around a group of criminals and their pursuit of golden biscuits. Krishna (Diganth), a habitual criminal, and his gang do everything in their power for a box of golden biscuits. The film, which starts with a seemingly small deal, eventually becomes about Krishna's grand scheme to steal millions worth of golden biscuits so that he can be settled in life. Joining him in his mission are Sonu (Sangeetha Sringeri), Gilki (Yash Shetty), and Sudhi (Sudhir Balraj). Whether or not these four will manage to get their hands on the golden biscuits and be settled in life form the crux of the story.

On the surface, *Marigold*, which follows a dialogue-oriented narrative, might seem like a simple tale, but director Raghavendra Naik infuses its plot with numerous twists, making it an engaging watch. It could have become a dull film but for the punch lines by Raghu Niduvalli that add life to the story. What also helps elevate the lines is how various actors deliver them in the film, ensuring that it doesn't bore you out.

Another primary attraction of *Marigold* is the performances, especially with regard to the chemistry between the actors Diganth and Sampath Maitreya. Diganth, in particular, impeccably portrays Krishna's character, effortlessly switching between delivering punchy dialogues while maintaining the comic timing and exhibiting heroism. Sanpath, in the role of a police constable, delivers one of his best performances, handling various shades with finesse. Even Sangeetha Sringeri, who is otherwise seen in girl-next-door roles, plays a slightly bolder character and she handles it well with able support from Sudhir Balraj and Yash Shetty.

Even though *Marigold* offers a different take on the crime thriller genre, its production quality leaves something to be desired and release timing should have been reconsidered. On the technical front, the songs by Veer Samarth aren't particularly memorable, and even the background score appears average. Nonetheless, KS Chandrashekar's cinematography is impressive. The juxtaposition between dry land and moments of romance effectively portrays whether romance can be a weakness in a criminal, capturing the essence of the narrative.

The film subtly highlights the repercussions of being money-minded, as illustrated by a poignant line that roughly translates thus: "We should aim to earn enough money to look after ourselves, without going beyond that, and should be vigilant in safeguarding our bounty." This sentiment resonates throughout the crime thriller, explaining the depth of human motivations and consequences.

Marigold could appeal to those who enjoy films with a mix of comedy, suspense, and thrills. Its dialogues, engaging narrative, good performances, and the opportunity to see Diganth in a new light make it a worthy watch for viewers seeking a fresh experience.

Sandra Oh joins Aziz Ansari's comedy film *Good Fortune*

CE FEATURES

CANADIAN and American actor Sandra Oh, who is known for her roles in Killing Eve and Arliss has been roped in for Aziz Ansari's directorial film, Good Fortune, reported Deadline.

The film also stars alongside Seth Rogen, Keanu Reeves, and Keke Palmer. This is Ansari's second directing endeavour after the Searchlight dramedy Being Mortal, which was cancelled in 2022 due to accusations of inappropriate behaviour made by actor Bill Murray.

Prior to this, he directed 11 episodes of Yang's critically acclaimed Netflix series Master of None, which he co-created, as well as his 2022 comedy special Nightclub Comedian.

Oh's role is being kept under wraps, as is the plot of the movie. Ansari directed from his script and produced alongside Anthony Katagas and Alan Yang, with Aniz Adam Ansari and Jonathan McCoy serving as executive producers. Brady Fujikawa and Jon Humphrey of Lionsgate are in charge of the picture.

Oh broke out in 1994 with her lead role in the Canadian indie drama Double Happiness. Her roles ramped up steadily from there, including The Princess Diaries, Full Frontal, and Sideways, and a supporting role in the HBO series Arliss.

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